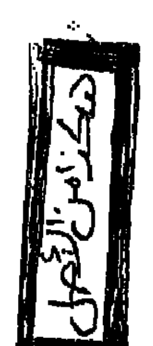


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Pompidou confirms support for British EEC entry



President Pompidou can be more than satisfied with the outcome of his twelve-hour talk with Premier Heath. Britain has concurred with M. Pompidou's view of a *Europe des patries*, a Western European confederation, and agreed to the French condition as regards the functioning of the EEC, unanimous decisions by the Council of Ministers.

Once and for all the two men have buried the dream of a politically united, supra-national Europe. In the presence of Mr Heath the French President lifted the veto on British membership of the Common Market in the very hall of the Elysée Palace in which General de Gaulle pronounced his *non* of 1963 and 1967. The door is now open.

M. Pompidou, unlike his great predecessor *neither a magician* with words nor a lover of surprise effects, has proved that his stated readiness in principle to consider British membership, made at the November 1969 Hague summit of Six heads of government, was meant seriously.

At the same time the President has remained true to the General's principal demand, that national sovereignty, the final say, never be handed over to others. He has gone well beyond the General only in ceding that Britain in the shape of Mr. Heath is ready to take its place alongside the Continent.

M. Pompidou no longer wants to part company with America. He talks in terms of a distinction, of a Europe that by virtue of the varying characteristics of its member-nations, tradition and certain declarations of common political intent differs from the United States yet is at the same time a Western Europe of which Britain can form a part.

There was little drama on the evening of 21 May. The Press waited for hours until Pompidou and Heath appeared at even and sat down on grey upholstered armchairs at a round table boasting a microphone.

All were agreed that it was an historic moment. During the waiting-period two hundred journalists made historical comparisons ranging from Joan of Arc and Poincaré to Churchill. In point of fact the outcome was something of an anticlimax.

Georges Pompidou uttered the crucial words without raising his voice. A cautious native of the Auvergne, he opted for a British understatement. "It would," he said, "be reasonable to imagine that agreement with Britain could be reached in June."

Edward Heath added that their views now very nearly coincided. No questions asked, no answers given. The final communiqué was almost equally unforthcoming.

M. Pompidou has not yielded on a single one of France's major negotiating-positions. Orthodox Gaullists will be upset to find that the head of state no longer makes out Britain to be America's Trojan horse and the President is far from launching a large-scale attack on the dollar but at the same time Britain has a high price to pay.

Whitehall must fully underwrite the common agricultural market price system after a relatively short transition period. Despite interim solutions Commonwealth preferences must gradually be abolished. Last but not least sterling must be extricated from its enormous burden of foreign indebtedness before joining a future European currency union.

Tough all-night negotiating-sessions face the Foreign Ministers in Brussels before a final decision is reached on Britain's Common Market entry bid. The decision is by no means bound to be taken in time for signature in Luxembourg in June.

Britain, so *Le Monde* writes, ought to erect a monument to Bonn Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Karl Schiller. His attitude during the all-night session of Common Market Finance Ministers on 8 May is said to have decided France to leave the door ajar for Britain.

France's anxiety about Bonn's economic might is boldly made out in Paris to be the main motive behind Mr Heath's visit. The truth of the matter is rather different. M. Pompidou wrote Herr Brandt a personal letter stating his intentions and stressing that they did not by the slightest stretch of the imagination include the formation of a Franco-British front against this country.

Other motives played a far larger part, even though neither of the heads of government may have mentioned them explicitly.

There is the inner conviction that sooner or later America will be cutting its commitments in Europe. President Nixon is evidently in a hurry to bring at least part of the Salt talks with the Soviet Union to a successful conclusion. Europe is thus seen to be powerless on crucial issues in world affairs.

What General de Gaulle had to say to British ambassador Christopher Soames in February 1969 is in the process of materialising. The Common Market looks like developing into a European free trade zone and no matter how hopeful the Brussels Eurocrats may appear to be at present the EEC Commission is likely to be replaced by another body.

If ever there were an issue on which Pompidou and Heath think alike it is their rejection of the idea of ceding sovereignty. M. Pompidou is no less emphatic on this point than the General was and Mr Heath also has no intention of allowing Parliament's powers to be curtailed.

The upshot will be a Europe entirely different to the ideas envisaged by Konrad Adenauer and Robert Schuman 21 years ago.

Anglo-French entente at the highest level also means a change in, if not the end of, the privileged relationship between Paris and Bonn, an axis General de Gaulle wanted to make the backbone of the Continent. Official denials will not make much difference to this fact either.

Jan Reifenberg

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 24 May 1971)



Dürer Exhibition

President Gustav Heinemann opened the Albrecht Dürer exhibition in Nuremberg on 21 May. The exhibition has been staged to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Dürer's birth.

(Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Heath's Paris visit marks a turning point for Europe

The road is clear for British membership of the European Common Market (EEC). A great number of loose ends remain to be tied up at the next round of Brussels talks but President Pompidou has anticipated the outcome by saying that success is within striking distance.

The discussions between Premier Heath and President Pompidou revealed there to be such a high degree of agreement between the two men on political topics that there is every reason to talk in terms of an entente cordiale that this time will benefit the whole of Western Europe.

The political situation in Europe has changed. Common intent in Paris and London could give Western European integration a fresh impetus and a sound foundation. A historical achievement can be carried out, of which only France and Britain in league with the others are capable.

Agreement between Britain and France makes possible what an anti-French coalition, agreement between Paris and Bonn and attempts by third parties to mediate between Paris and London, have all proved unable to bring about.

M. Pompidou's words about Britain's European will and readiness to accept the regulations of the Community and to promote and consolidate the EEC, not to mention his comment about France's will to accept Britain as a partner, mark a major turning-point in European affairs.

The two statesman risked their personal prestige. Mr Heath indeed staked his political career on Britain's Common Market entry bid. Regardless of the scepticism that is still at large in Paris the predominant impression is that Britain will soon be a member of the Common Market and a partner of France's in European policies elsewhere in the world. The road can now only be blocked by the British Cabinet and the House of Commons, not by the Brussels negotiators.

For France's partners, particularly this country, a new situation has arisen in Western Europe, a situation to which they will first have to grow accustomed.

For better or for worse, with its achievements and uncertainty, its good will and its mistakes, this country has played its part in bringing about this development. Bonn has harried the two Western powers towards European integration.

All Europeans and all Germans ought to congratulate themselves and each other on this fresh hope for the European idea and the prospect of joint security and common policies.

The Paris accord of 21 May 1971 represents no more than a chance, however. Success has yet to be achieved.

Lothar Ruehl

(DIE WELT, 22 May 1971)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Some plain speaking done in Bucharest

DIE ZEIT

There were no ovations but the applause was cordial enough as President Heinemann, accompanied by his Rumanian host President Ceausescu, drove slowly into Bucharest from Otopeni airport in an open Mercedes.

The closer he came to town the more people lined the streets. The crowds started to assemble in the early morning. They arrived on foot or packed in buses with people standing on the bumpers as often as not.

There was, of course, no lack of factory parties and groups of schoolchildren dressed in blue who were expected to account for the majority of the crowd.

Fifty to seventy thousand Bucharest people were assembled, not many in comparison to the crowds that lined the streets to welcome Richard Nixon or General de Gaulle but it was the largest crowd Gustav Heinemann has ever encountered on foreign visits.

Whenever he waved to the crowds from the rear seat of the car they waved their Rumanian and German flags back. The President then disappeared from the public's view.

He drove into a northern suburb of the city that is marked by halt signs and military guards. The general public are not allowed into the part of town where high-ranking Party and government officials live. His destination was the Spring Palace, the official residence for state visitors.

Palace is a somewhat misleading name. The visitor from Bonn stayed not in a palace but in a squat modern building of steel and plate glass, a gigantic cousin of the Chancellor's bungalow in the garden of Bonn's Palais Schaumburg. Heinemann's bathroom alone was the size of a three-room flat.

With this house as his headquarters President Heinemann went through the ceremonies of the first state visit ever paid to a communist country by a West German head of state.

The Spring Palace has previously housed President Nixon, the Shah of Iran and General de Gaulle but, with the exception of Walter Ulbricht, a German head of state has not paid an Eastern European country an official visit since the Russian Revolution.

This fact was the main reason for the political significance of a visit that both sides took care to make out to be the most natural affair in the world. The importance the Rumanians attached to the visit can be seen from their original intention of extending the President's visit to a full six days.

Both sides were agreed as to the symbolic value of the visit. First Secretary Ceausescu intended it to underscore the fact that Rumania's radius of action is not restricted to the Eastern Bloc. President Heinemann wanted to make it clear that Rumania, in common with all neighbouring countries to the East, is part of Europe.

Both wanted to show that despite ideological differences cordial relations are both possible and worth striving after.

Bonn's policy towards the Eastern Bloc has made it easier for the Rumanian leader to disregard the disapproval with which a number of Eastern European countries noted the forward role Rumania has assumed, first in establishing full diplomatic relations with Bonn in 1967 and now in welcoming President Heinemann.

The most salient feature of relations between this country and Rumania is its inconspicuous nature. There are no special problems and relations are intensified without much ado.

Both Bonn and Bucharest rate mutual relations as the most satisfactory result so far of their policies towards the East and West respectively. They do so because ties have been intensified carefully and consistently.

This particularly applies to economic relations, which have proved to be the cornerstone of developments. Economic ties were re-established as long ago as



President Nicolai Ceausecu and President Gustav Heinemann in Bucha[rest]

1954 and by 1967 had progressed so well that the exchange of ambassadors was merely a symbolic confirmation of a *fait accompli*.

This country is now Rumania's second most important trading partner after the Soviet Union. The results of the last five-year plan and the targets set for the period up to 1975 make it clear that Rumania is in the process of transformation from an agricultural to an industrial country. In the circumstances the Federal Republic, as an industrial power, will continue to gain in importance as a trading partner for a Rumania bent on attaining international standards.

Industry in this country is increasingly appreciative of Rumanian achievements too. Leafing through his appointment book Cristian Scornea, a department head in the Rumanian Ministry of Foreign Trade, noted that "there is something to do with Germany every other day."

It is particularly worth noting that over and above the conventional forms of import and export trade cooperative ventures are being undertaken, between MAN and a commercial vehicle factory in Brasov, for instance.

This particular project, launched three years ago, consists of the Germans supplying licences and know-how and the Brasov factory returning the favour in the form of commercial vehicles and components, such as drive axles. Specialists come and go between the two [...] and Rumanian engineers gain [...] knowledge in this country.

This is not an isolated instan[ce ...] list of cooperative ventures laun[ched ...] year shows. Last March the R[...] went a step further in offering [...] joint companies. Rumanian trad[ing orga]nisations and foreign firms can [...] up companies jointly.

The uncommonly pragmatic [...] of the Rumanians is the key [...] development. Asked whether the[...] of profit, of surplus value, to [...] Marxist term, does not represent [...] his country's ideological [...] Scornea hesitates only a moment [...] replying in a staggeringly matter[-of-fact] manner that "We are businessm[en ...] want to trade."

The economic prospects Ruman[ia of]fers this country include, last b[ut not] least, that of gaining access, w[ith Ru]manian assistance, to other mark[ets not] yet sounded out, particularly Ch[ina, with] whom the Rumanians have [...] close ties.

This prospect was outlined by [a Ru]manian official with the comme[nt ...] intensification of economic coope[ration] is bound in the long run to [...] common interests that may even[tually] defuse political conflicts.

This consideration came very much [to] the fore when President Ceausescu [...] mentioned, at the gala assembly to [...] the fiftieth anniversary of the Rum[anian] Communist Party, the possibility of [...] communist countries participati[ng in] Comecon.

In discussions with visiting Fe[deral] Republic journalists he stressed [...] important coming to an understand[ing ...] going to be. His additional comment [...]

Continued on page 3

The background to the short but spicy foreign policy section of First Secretary Brezhnev's Tiflis speech is easily outlined from Moscow.

The Soviet leader has stated as a matter of principle that Soviet foreign policy will be guided more than in the past by the desire to develop the economy, society and the standard of living.

The underlying thought is that the Soviet Union and maybe Western countries too might now be genuinely interested in agreements designed to cut arms expenditure.

This is why the detente and disarmament package proposed by Leonid Brezhnev at the XXIV Soviet Communist Party Congress is to become a permanent feature of Soviet foreign policy.

The Brezhnev proposals do not come in any rigid order of preference. They can be dealt with item by item and discussed in bilateral talks.

This at any rate is the gist of the Soviet leader's suggestion that Western countries interested in a closer definition of troop cuts ought to enter into negotiations.

The Soviet leadership is working on the assumption that Central Europe is now, unlike over a long post-war period, a suitable terrain for agreement between

Moscow alarmed by Nato's consolidation efforts

East and West. The United States is alleged to be the bone of contention.

Moscow has now come to realise, though, that a Berlin settlement and a breakthrough towards a European security conference still require time.

This is why the Soviet leader excluded both Berlin and ratification of the treaty with Bonn – logically enough considering that although the Kremlin may not officially accept the link between the two it does in fact take it into account.

The European deadlock caused for the time being by these unresolved problems is to be broken by consideration of the topics that may prove suitable for negotiations between the Soviet Union and Western Europe.

Mr Brezhnev has accordingly revived the proposal that has been discussed with the greatest interest in the West, the suggestion of troop cuts, and called on other countries to clarify matters by means of bilateral talks.

Basically Moscow is afraid of stagnation in developments towards a security conference because it would provide out-and-out opponents of the idea, especially in the United States, with an opportunity of gathering strength.

Western politicians who voice interest in individual Soviet proposals are thus taken at their word. The short-term, as opposed to strategic, background is the course of events in Nato.

Moscow feels that the United States is increasingly trying to reach agreement on a common approach to European security policy as a whole and East-West talks in particular, in time for the Lisbon meeting of the North Atlantic Council.

Both the intensive efforts to gain the support of French Foreign Minister Schumann and Mr Brezhnev's offer of bilateral talks on troop cuts in Europe have been aimed at counteracting consolidation under America's influence.

The call on Social Democratic governments was doubtless aimed at Bonn too and Moscow would doubtless feel there to be some point in Foreign Minister Scheel of this country discussing the Soviet proposals with Valentin Falin, the new Soviet ambassador in Bonn and a man partially responsible for the drafting of the foreign policy programme for the last Party congress.

Heinz Lathe

(Kieler Nachrichten, 17 May 1971)

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GOVERNMENT

Karl Schiller gives top priority to economic stability

DIE ZEIT

[L]udwig Erhard's government collapsed after a long-simmering crisis. Willy [Bra]ndt's government acted speedily and [co]rrectly before the controversy about [Fi]nance Minister Alex Möller could eat its [wa]y into public thinking and before the [O]pposition found an opportunity to turn [lo]ng and lovingly to the subject.

At the same time as announcing the Finance Minister's resignation, the government confirmed that Karl Schiller was to become a super-minister, adding the Finance Ministry to his own Economic Affairs Ministry.

During the whole crisis Chancellor Brandt proved he had the decisiveness that he often seemed to lack during the normal run of things.

It is not easy for any government when its Finance Minister takes his leave. He is the Cabinet member who translates the Chancellor's political guidelines into budget figures.

When a Finance Minister resigns, danger threatens the Cabinet and the Chancellor. When he despairs of ever being able to restrain his fellow-Ministers in their demands, the Chancellor too must begin to have doubts whether he still has control.

It is only natural that the Opposition has now discovered its liking for former Finance *Minister Möller*. Once the Opposition was always attacking him for what it claimed was an unstable Budgetary policy. Now it mourns him as a martyr of stability who fought the good, though unfortunately vain fight. For an Opposition the only good minister is one who has had to resign.

The fact is however that Alex Möller, who always encouraged whatever Finance Minister was in power during his Opposition days to resist high expenditure and if need be make use of his right of veto, did not himself have the nerves for such a clash.

It is a further fact that Karl Schiller on many occasions pressed more decisively for a restrictive budgetary policy than his colleague in the Ministry of Finance.

But the crisis did not centre simply on the figure of Alex Möller. The case was not that of the health and vigour of just one Cabinet member. Möller's resignation has illuminated two serious problems facing the government.

The first problem is nothing new as it has so far faced every Cabinet in the Federal Republic. This is the tension between the departmental egotism of the ministers and the overall political role of the Finance Minister.

The Finance Minister is to act as the financier of the reforms planned by other ministers and at the same time the guardian of the treasury. He has to divide the possible from the desirable while following the Chancellor's guidelines.

This synchronisation within the cabinet is no more than poor even with the present government and all its early coordination and planning. Government Ministers often think of themselves as lone fighters and are all too inclined to try and cheat their way past the Finance Minister.

Every Minister's natural interest in obtaining as much money as possible for his Ministry is now confined by particular narrow limits. Realising this, some Ministers have obviously taken precautions by demanding a particularly high sum in the 1972 Budget and future financial planning. Instead of early coordination of the Ministries there was the early resignation of the Finance Minister.

Karl Schiller now faces the same difficulties as his predecessor, though his position is stronger. This is not because he has become a super-minister but because the ups and downs of this government have come to be identified with the new Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance.

Möller's resignation – it was not his first request to leave – could be accepted without the Cabinet collapsing. Schiller's resignation however would mean the end of the present government.

Schiller has more power in this Cabinet than any Minister before him. His super-ministry is a sort of supplementary Chancellor's Office that almost automatically takes over some of the responsibility for providing guidelines for domestic policies.

To exaggerate the issue a little, the Federal Republic will in future be ruled by a Brandt-Schiller coalition that will not be very much to the liking of several powerful Ministers.

Even so, if there is a "stability pact" between Brandt and Schiller, there will also be a justified prospect that financial discussions will be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

The Chancellor would be well advised in future to use the decisiveness he showed in overcoming the Möller crisis so that further crisis can be avoided.

And politicians in the government camp would be well advised not to take Möller's resignation as an excuse to fall back into old ways and discuss in public what proposals must on no account be affected by stabilisation policies.

If it is now discussed in public what spheres of expenditure should be taboo, the government's stabilisation programme would be talked to death.

Möller's resignation need not have a detrimental effect on the government. It has initially increased the population's feeling of insecurity but the mood is not one of catastrophe.

The efficiency of the coalition of Social and Free Democrats does not seem to be weakened and the shock may have a beneficial effect. The chance of pressing through a policy of stabilisation has become greater.

The Möller case does not only illuminate questions of organisation and leadership. The Finance Minister's resignation spotlights another problem facing the present coalition – the conflict of aims. This government took office as a Cabinet of reform. It is now presenting itself as a preserver of stability.

Every government must choose one of two strategies. It can either make itself conspicuous by carrying out reforms or make itself as inconspicuous as possible by pursuing a policy of stability and continuity. In practice, a government usually adopts a mixture of the two strategies.

The Brandt government is now on the point of changing the mixture, obeying its own judgement of the situation and, even more, the financial emergency. The Chancellor's last speech to the Bundestag showed the change.

Chancellor Brandt spoke of a consolidation pause and stated, "Stability demands that we must all at first restrain ourselves in order to ensure a better starting point for future development." Schiller announced, "Stability has priority, reforms will take longer!"

Many electors who voted Social Democrat or Free Democrat in 1969 could not have imagined that this government would have acted in this way.

They supported the Socialist-Liberal coalition as they were certain that it would be strong enough to introduce reforms. They wanted more than a government that only tried to "survive" in the traditional way.

Many journalists sympathetic to the coalition, including those from *Die Zeit*, increased their often indiscriminate enthusiasm for reforms and thus contributed to raising hopes high, too high.

The reformers have had to learn in the meantime that reforms take longer and are harder to put into effect than they once thought. In the psychological sphere the population's need for security was underestimated.

In the planning sphere there was a lack of tools. But the main factor was the shortage of money in the financial sphere. The government must now draw the necessary conclusions.

The announcement of a change of course does not admittedly change policies. The real test will be the 1972 Budget, the medium-term financial planning and the tax reform.

Only when the Budget and financial planning has been completed will it be seen what value stability has for the government. Only when the tax reform has been passed will it be possible to estimate how much money the State will have in future for its reforms and how much the Federal Republic continues to exist under the law of private affluence and public poverty.

Economic stability is not an end in itself and is not an accomplishment that will automatically solve all social problems. But it is, and the reformers have had to learn this, a basic condition for reforms.

The twin operation of a stability budget and tax reform will when all is said and done determine the final judgement of the government's domestic policies.

If the government fails to achieve these two aims it will have failed. If it carries out a policy of stability that is successful to any extent it will go down in history as a good, conservative government. If it achieves both aims it will survive the judgement of even critical voters.

Rolf Zündel

(DIE ZEIT, 21 May 1971)

Continued from page 2

this will only be possible when all concerned come to realise that socialist ideas form the basis for a sensible society does little to alter the impression that another principle altogether is involved.

This principle is that the more economic and other cooperation leads to common interests, the less likely serious and possibly armed conflict becomes. Viewed in this light Rumania is undoubtedly the most interesting experiment in East-West cooperation there is at the moment.

It was apparent on the very first day that Gustav Heinemann's visit, no matter how much it was limited pro forma to representation, was more than a mere courtesy call.

After the two delegations had conversed for a while over fruit juice and petits fours the two men retired in the afternoon for a confidential talk that lasted longer than originally intended.

Ceausescu spoke frankly about trading problems and went on to mention that the Moscow and Warsaw treaties ought to be ratified as soon as possible. Heinemann replied in kind. Ratification, he said, could only be considered when there was some guarantee that West Berlin could not be caught in an Eastern stranglehold.

Strong words for a protocol-bound state visit, some may feel, but anxiety on this score is unjustified. The possibility was suggested to a Rumanian observer during an evening's run-through of the day's events. "Not at all," he replied, "our relations are so normal by now that we can afford to engage in plain speaking."

Carl-Christian Kaiser

(DIE ZEIT, 21 May 1971)

Gerhard Schröder avoids trends at political polarisation

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

The more a government shows its weakness, the greater public interest is in the Opposition's political programme and the personalities it has to offer. Interest sinks when the government is strong.

This interest has been rising for some time now. The reasons are obvious. But the Janus head of the Opposition leadership prevents any clear orientation.

In dubio pro populo. If asked which Christian Democrat they thought would be most capable of successfully opposing Willy Brandt now or in 1973, the majority of electors would without hesi*tation mention those two names that the* committees responsible in the CDU/CSU only put forward under pressure of time, pressure of opinion and with considerable difficulties – *Rainer Barzel* and *Gerhard Schröder*.

Unlike the CDU/CSU, voters have already stated a clear preference. Pollsters know that they support Gerhard Schröder.

Schröder was never really all that popular during his political career since the foundation of the Federal Republic so why is he so popular now?

This question cannot be answered by pointing to the intentional silence adopted by Schröder since the beginning of the Grand Coalition.

It is far more a vote of undisguised instinct to which Gerhard Schröder owes his role as a rival Chancellor. Instinct is based on tangible signs. The weekend of the international currency crisis brought two of these signs.

While Rainer Barzel sharply accused the Cabinet of poor style and irresponsibility, Schröder warned the Opposition against cheap opportunism. He added that the currency situation was so serious that the Christian Democrats should not make it unnecessarily difficult for the government but should help in mastering the crisis.

One political party but two faces. Barzel has known how to use his energy, flair and ambition to fill the gap arising from the CDU's loss of power. His merits are beyond dispute. He may however now be allergic to people who prefer to be courted instead of themselves doing the courting.

Gerhard Schröder, who has had more years and experience as a Minister than anyone else in Bonn, intentionally provides a contrast. He has decided to arouse confidence in him by standing aloof from the polarisation process that is deplored on all sides. When things are seen in this light, the CDU has no further choice.

Eberhard Maseberg

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 16 May 1971)

■ HOME AFFAIRS

Federal Border Guards search for an identity

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The blue and white speedboat *Eschwege* raced into the Baltic from Lübeck Bay. Minister of the Interior Hans Dietrich Genscher stood on the bridge in a light summer suit and observed the manoeuvres of the First Motor Launch Flotilla of the Federal Border Guard.

The *Alsfeld, Bayreuth* and *Rosenheim* came out from Kiel. Nine helicopters belonging to the Border Guard took off from Travemünde and skimmed the surface as they approached the boats.

The helicopters flew just above the boats, flying at the same speed as they made their way deeper into the Baltic. The lead helicopter in the formation flew so close to the deck of the *Eschwege* that Hans Dietrich Genscher quipped that he could board it right away if he were suddenly called to an important Cabinet meeting in Bonn.

The joint sea and air manoeuvres were part of the twentieth anniversary celebrations of the Federal Border Guard. The first BGS units were set up twenty years ago in Lübeck but the service is now fighting for firm public acceptance of its role.

The Minister of the Interior and the members of the Bundestag Committee for Home Affairs who were also attending the Baltic manoeuvres knew this as well as the officers and lower ranks of the BGS.

It is not only its lack of image that worries the Border Guard. The organisation also has to face inadequate understanding of its role, if not sheer misunderstanding.

This is caused by the Border Guard's hybrid nature. Christian Democrat Ernst Benda, a former Minister of the Interior, described the service as a cross between the police force and the army.

Are the border guards in their olive green uniforms policemen, as they should be, or are they soldiers as observers might suppose from their anniversary parade at Blankensee, on the outskirts of Lübeck?

At Blankensee around four hundred armoured vehicles, some equipped with 7.6 millimetre cannon, drove past their commanders. The drivers and crew wore steel helmets.

Genscher has no doubts about the answer but he knows that there are doubts. That is why he states: "It must be made more clear that the Border Guard is a Federal police force."

The fact that it is organised and led like an army and has more lethal weapons than the pistols normally carried by police makes no difference, the Minister believes. This is necessary for its role.

But much criticism of the Border Guard stems from its role and the lack of clarity about the organisation, partly caused by the laws governing its foundation and purpose.

It was set up as a frontier police force in 1951. The reason it was set up was, a BGS memorandum states, the growing danger for public security and order in the vicinity of the demarcation line to the German Democratic Republic as well as the need to reach a legal definition of the activity of what was then the Federal Passport Control Service at border crossing points.

In other words, it was the Federal Republic's answer to that branch of the German Democratic Republic's People's Police that later became the National People's Army.

The Federal Border Guard soon outgrew its role as a pure border police force and was gradually given more and more duties in other fields.

The Border Guard acts as a security force in Bonn, it guards the President and the Chancellor and protects foreign legations from possible attack or violence.

When Basic Law was amended to cover the regulations governing possible emergency powers the Border Guard was given new duties in the field of internal security.

It can now be used, if the Federal states demand or the government decrees, if the basic democratic order of the Federal Republic or one of its Federal states is attaked, if there are natural disasters such as floods or if particularly serious accidents occur.

The Border Guard thus has to carry out the same duties as the Federal States' own police forces. Past experience has however shown that too many demands are often placed on the police force.

Speaking to BGS commanders, Minister Genscher said, "The security situation is marked by an increase in crime, the appearance of foreign terror groups trying to bring their disputes into the Federal Republic and the existence of a number of extremist groups who do not shun criminal acts in pursuing their political aims.

"This additional and in many cases unusual burden for the security organs is hindered by the considerable shortage of manpowers in some police forces."

A working group set up by the Federal states' interior ministers came to the conclusion that the present strength of the stand-by police means that the states are not really able to give each other effective help when this is needed.

It is in cases like this that the Border Guard will intervene. But the Federal states, which always pay careful attention to their autonomy, must not feel that they are being trumped by the central government.



Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Interior Minister, inspecting members of the Border [...]

The necessity of action conflicts here with the federalist principle. This conflict must be solved if the Border Guard is not to be worn down by the contradiction between federalist demands and the requirements of the individual Federal states.

Heinz Ruhnau, Hamburg's Senator of the Interior, takes a realistic view of the situation: "We must not seek reasons of tradition to prevent the Federal Border Guard from assuming some of the functions of the Federal states' own police forces."

A point that was continually made clear in Lübeck was that the law governing the Federal Border Guard must be brought into line with the more recent constitutional changes. Minister Genscher will shortly be submitting an amendment to the government.

Genscher will also have thorough discussions with the Border Guard so that "his" police force will know exactly what the State wants and expects of it and what help it is entitled to expect [...] State.

They hope that the State [...] public will give clear suppor[t ...] bodies that are supposed to pro[...] State, among them the Federal [...] Guard, as Minister Genscher did [...] reception in Lübeck Town Hall [...] Chancellor Willy Brandt did in a [...] of greeting to the Border Guard.

But it remains doubtful whe[ther the] dilemma of the twenty thousa[nd] strong Border Guard can be solve[d ...] there is a clear statement about th[e ...] of a Federal police force with a [...] defined role.

As long as the Federal Border G[uard] carries out the duties of a Federal [...] force without being able to des[cribe] themselves as such, misunderstan[ding] will continue.

Taking over other duties, such [as ...] of a nationwide motorway polic[e ...] will scarcely be possible. New bl[ood ...] not be attracted. Celebrations also [...] not alter the situation.

Hans Jörg Sa[...]

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 10 M[...])

Spread of objections of conscience must be halted

One thing must be made plain from the very beginning — demands for a defence tax (Wehrsteuer) must be accompanied by demands for a better army. Defence tax can only have a sound purpose if it is considered as a way to adapt general conscription to the age in which we live.

All considerations must be based on the duty of protecting the community. Providing external security is a binding commitment on everybody. This can be achieved in a number of ways. One of these is by becoming a soldier.

What we now understand by defending our country has been largely freed of the pathos of a personal sacrifice of life and limb.

NATO armies are trained for war, it is true. They must be able to fight. The martial spirit must not be extinguished.

But their military role is given a political interpretation. The army is a means of preventing war. It has to exist as a threat to others. Its deterrent effect is one of the cornerstones of the strategy of maintaining peace.

Diplomatic flexibility, political will, industrial power, technical organisation, economic opportunity and treaties of alliance are the other factors of our strategy.

Conscription and the soldiers thus provided are essential to external security. Soldiers are important but they do not stand at the centre of planning for this work-sharing strategy. Not all the young people liable for conscription are calles up. A selection can be made among them.

Conscription must be interpreted differently than was once the case. It is no longer the reservoir for a large armed body. It must be compared with the readiness of the modern industrial nation to contribute to external security in a large number of fields.

In times of peace a measurable form of action for the security of the community is the financial contribution of the individual in preserving the common good.

Everyone pays for our external security by paying taxes. Those who do military service in addition are taking over further burdens.

Starting from the fact that everyone has to pay taxes and that events do not force everyone to do military service, a person cannot fail to come to the conclusion that a person who does n[ot do mili]tary service should pay less.

Nobody will underestimate the [tech]nical difficulties involved in shifting [va]rious parts of the tax burden. The f[irst] thing to do is to work out the fi[nancial] value of the service period.

The period during which a pers[on is] freed from paying taxes need not ne[ces]sarily be the same as the time he sp[ends] in the reserves. How are people who [...] to serve yet are not recruited t[o be] treated?

But really all these questions a[re] answered during the course of eve[...] main point to be recognised wh[en dis]cussing the problem of a defence [tax is] that the contribution to external se[curity] can take a number of forms.

Military service too must be viewed [as a] special type of defence tax. At the [same] time it must be freed from the m[...] it is a *levée en masse*.

The old idea of the indissolub[le ...] the right of the citizen to be pr[otected] with defence and his duty to provi[de ...] no longer relevant in an industrial [...] We have become more sober. W[e ...] satisfied by the duty alone.

This type of attitude makes it eas[ier for] a government to approach the i[...] production State. Even the mentio[n of] "military autonomy" could not be [...] to prevent modern interpretations of [the] role of army and State.

If military defence tax is to be un[der-]

Continued on page 5

TRADE UNIONS

Old DGB draws up new statute

Handelsblatt
DEUTSCHE WIRTSCHAFTSZEITUNG
Industriekurier

[Th]e reform congress of the Trades Union Conferderation (DGB) is over [and] the reforms can be put into practice. [The] congress to discuss the new DGB [statu]te attracted 430 delegates from the [sixt]een trade unions to Düsseldorf along [with] almost as many guests and journa[lists]. The results of this extraordinary [co]ngress did not justify all the effort.

"The organisational form of trade unions in this country has proved successful," Otto Brenner, the strongest man in the DGB, said before the congress. Many other union members are of the same opinion. So why was there talk of DGB reform?

Discussion on reform did not start at the DGB congress of May 1969 where this subject threatened to overwhelm other business with the result that it was set to one side for a later congress.

Ten years previously Georg Leber, then the head of the construction workers union, had spoken to the fifth DGB Congress in Stuttgart and defined the problem.

"This DGB and its Federal executive," he stated, "will be incapable of pursuing such a consistent policy as we demand as long as it does not have the necessary authority and has to throw a hurried glance at the unions after every word it utters."

But the problem is not authority alone. Basically, reform of the DGB centres around the question of how the body can be *strengthened* as the central organisation of all trade unions so that it can become politically more powerful or whether it is sufficient to strengthen its affiliated members.

The newly drafted statute adopted at the Düsseldorf congress does not provide a clear answer to this question. At any rate, the DGB did not become stronger at the expense of the individual unions. That could not be expected.

Opening the congress, DGB Chairman Heinz Oskar Vetter said: "We cannot strengthen the DGB without the unions surrendering some of their independence. Or to put it another way, if the unions surrender some of their independence, the DGB will be strengthened and that will strengthen us all, even the individual unions."

The applause at this point was superfluous. The question was not mentioned again during the subsequent discussion.

The commission responsible for drawing up a new statute consisted of members of the sixteen unions and the DGB. During its seven months of study it cleared up all the controversial questions concerning the distribution of power between the DGB and the individual unions in a series of compromises.

Before the congress started Otto Brenner was able to announce in his union's newspaper that there was no trace of the centralising tendency in the DGB that had played such a role at the previous DGB Congress. "I look upon it as an advance," Brenner said, "that no attempts of this kind were ventured."

Centralisation was a subject of violent discussion in union ranks during 1968 and 1969 and caused the downfall of one well-known trades union official.

Kurt Gscheidle, then the deputy leader of the postal workers union and a candidate for the post of DGB Chairman, was one of the last supporters of centralisation within the DGB.

He had made his candidature for the post of DGB Chairman dependent on the condition that his line was followed. But that was the eventual reason for his defeat. Heinz-Oskar Vetter became DGB Chairman.

The subject of centralisation was finally dropped at the reform congress in Düsseldorf. The DGB has not become stronger and in Düsseldorf the question of a new basic course played no role at all.

In his speech at the beginning of the congress DGB Chariman Vetter made a few programmatic rulings and called for unity within the trade union movement.

During the course of the discussion, it was found the the importance of the affiliated unions would continue to be the decisive factor in what is called trade union policy.

That means that the basic programme of the DGB is the formal basis for the theoretical position of the unions but the unions themselves still retain a lot of room for manoeuvre in the interpretation of the programme and in practical work.

It remains to be seen whether the unions have already missed their chance of exercising an influence on social change as a political force and to their own ends, as the DGB Chairman put it, "if we do not take seriously the appeal for political unity and solidarity."

But the DGB cannot be said to be disunited and thus condemned to failure. There is also something to be said for Otto Brenner's belief that the DGB grows stronger as its afiliated unions do.

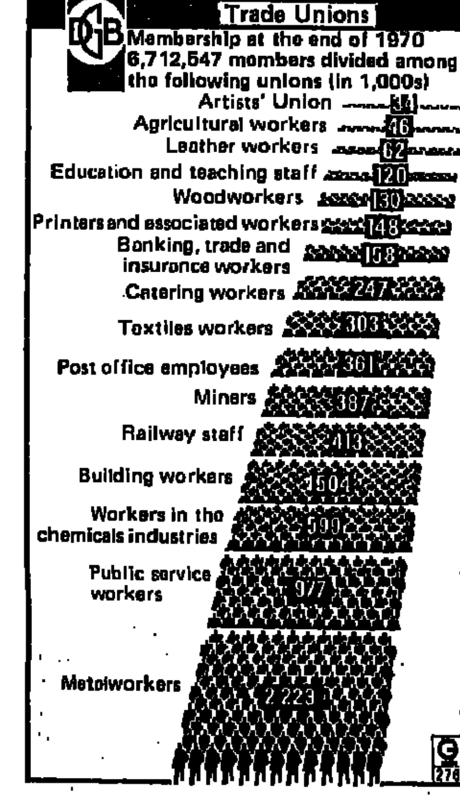
If this is the case, one of the main concerns in future will be to help increase the strength of one union or another. The best way to achieve this is by merging smaller unions into a joint organisation. This subject was brought up by DGB Chairman Vetter right at the beginning of the congress and was also mentioned in the subsequent discussion.

The new version of the third paragraph of the statute is of interest as far as the unity of the trades union movement in the Federal Republic is concerned.

Paragraph Three states that previously non-affiliated unions could join the DGB though on condition that this is done with the agreement of the other trade unions in the same branch of industry who are already members. This applies chiefly to the White Collar Workers Union (DAG) and the policemen's trade union.

A large part of the debate was devoted to the reorganisation of the Federal committee. The Federal committee is the supreme organ of the DGB between the Federal congresses and is now to be expanded by including additional delegates of the individual unions. Numbers will then be increased to one hundred.

This second most important body in the trade union movement will be important in future, which is tantamount to a stricter coordination of trade union policy.



But it will depend on the individual unions whether the Federal committee meets more frequently than has previously been the case. The statute rules that the body should meet once every three months.

The strength of the metalworkers union delegation at the Düsseldorf congress is one reason why an important resolution was not accepted.

The Statute Commission proposed that representatives of the DGB executive should attend meetings of the main bodies of the affiliated unions.

The metalworkers union considered this to be interference in its own internal affairs. With its own 130-man delegation (out of a total of 430) and the support of the construction workers union the metalworkers managed to block the proposal.

Trade union reform was a continual process, Heinz Oskar Vetter said. The new statute was only a beginning. Nobody knew for sure what was to come next. If the unions wanted to reexamine their position in society and become more attractive and convicing for workers, the could have done that on the basis of the old statute, Vetter said. The new statute was no reason for an ideological change.

Eberhard Starosta

(Handelsblatt, 17 May 1971)

DGB Düsseldorf congress demands

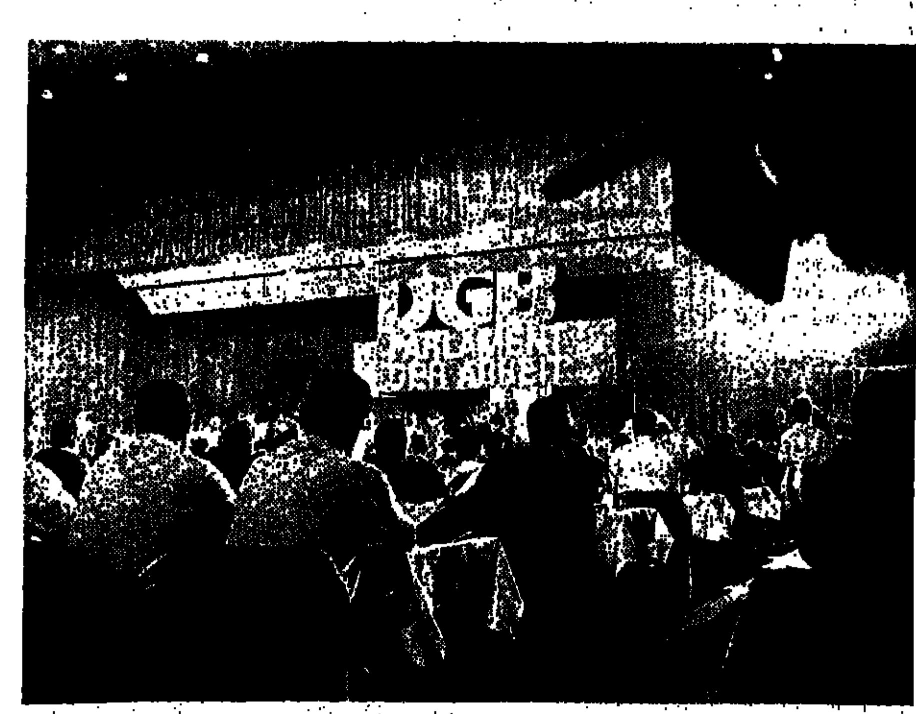
At its extraordinary congress in Düsseldorf the Trades Union Conferderation (DGB) demanded a continuation of the policy of domestic reform.

The DGB stated that the government should link its moves for greater price stability with a long-term guarantee of full employment.

The DGB also demanded:

1. Measures to tighten up the law governing competition;
2. A reform of laws governing rented premises, building and land;
3. Economic growth based on a balanced credit, fiscal and budgetary policy;
4. Tax reform and;
5. Effective redistribution of wealth in favour of the worker by transferring a proportion of profits to an independent fund.

(DIE WELT, 15 May 1971)



The DGB congress in Düsseldorf (Photo: J.H. Darchinger)

Continued from page 4

stood as compensation, it is easy to draw up laws to satisfy the moral and political demands of soldiers for balanced personal treatment in a democracy.

The way would also be cleared for greater justice in the armed forces. The chance that often decides whether a person is conscripted or not has done a lot to contribute to the disinclination toward doing armed service.

Conscientious objection may be traced to the recognition that modern European war is no longer a battle between knights but a military form of mutual extermination. A sensitive conscience must be respected.

But a large number of young conscripts know that their role is to provide security. Many have understood what deterrent strategy entails.

The suspicion is therefore justified that there is a link between conscientious objection and the injustice surrounding conscription. There is no other explanation for the flood of applications to be excused military service on the grounds of conscientious objection.

11,446 applications have already been received in the first quarter of 1971. Six thousand applications were made during the whole of 1967, twelve thousand in 1968 and nineteen thousand in 1970.

It is estimated that by the end of 1971 more than 100,000 applications will have been made since the Bundeswehr was set up.

The Bundestag could not ignore this fact during its debate on the subject. Unorthodox action is necessary if the situation is to be changed.

Adelbert Weinstein

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 May 1971)

■ THE STAGE

Dragons on the boards

Occasions where a dictator is at times impotent and at others anything but and then has to castrate himself in order to liberate himself are all too rare in modern dictatorships, it must be agreed!

This is the monkey-business, the showy effects of a rather mad and audacious show. But this is precisely the tenor of Wolf Biermann's grossly inflated first piece for the stage.

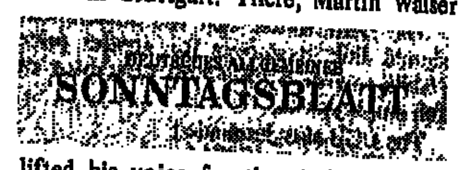
And *Der Dra-Dra, die grosse Drachentöterschau* (The Dra-Dra, the great dragon slaying show) by the German Democratic Republic's minstrel would have remained mere bloated polit-propaganda had it not been for the directing of Hansgünther Heyme at the first performance of the play at the Munich Kammerspiele. (This earnt itself the right to call itself the premiere by being put on just half an hour before the performance in Wiesbaden.)

Almost simultaneously two other stages in Munich were embroiled with two other dragons. The Nationaltheater opera was staging Paul Dessau's *Lancelot*, an operatic version of the corresponding political dragon fairy-tale by Jewgenij Schwarz. And the workshop at the Kammerspiele was putting on Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* without Wagner's music and distorted and de-mythologised into its historical-political traits by Ulrich Heising and Christian Enzensberger.

This filled the evening with comedy and fulfilled the expectations that must have been held of it. It was a theatrical parody of an opera and very delightful despite all its serious intentions.

On the other hand at the Byerisches Staatsoper the proceedings were truly tedious as a result of the attempt to bring the political musical fairytale back into line by making it as stylised and aesthetic as possible.

At roughly the same time there was yet another extreme case to be recorded; this time in Stuttgart. There, Martin Walser



lifted his voice for the sixth time as a dramatist and made himself heard. *Ein Kinderspiel* (Child's play) was the title, but for those who were watching and listening it was anything but.

Much greater demands were made. There had to be acrobatic awareness. This was a piece for the theatre that did not want to submit to theatrical rules and regulations. It concerned itself as honestly and realistically as possible with political problems in order to get behind this facade and find opportunities for political and revolutionary effects.

For many people this quickly became an evening of misunderstandings or a complete waste of an evening in total ineffectuality.

Is all of this educational? Political theatre — centring around generally revealed theatrical impotence? In some cases it seemed too stupid, in others too artycrafty, sometimes too tiring, sometimes too limited and dogmatic? One comes to know the poles of such dialectics gradually sufficiently well. One has got to know in the meantime long, long ago and perhaps better than ever the advantages and disadvantages of joining the bandwagon of the more ideological or more aesthetic principles.



Hans Volk as the Dragon in Wolf Biermann's *Dra-Dra*

(Photo: Hannelore Voigt)

As a result it is possible to shake off the cramped feelings and say to oneself more calmly: something is left in the air on this side of the footlights if it is not carried off with political equanimity on the other side of the footlights.

This fact is underlined by all four performances in question. Involvement can be inventive. It can, as in the case of Dessau, lead to a mania for inventiveness. The dragon does not grunt and roar, hiss and threaten with a Stentorian voice even though the hero Lancelot approaches him on a magic carpet with the massive sword of the working classes drawn and ready.

The tyrant falls in many forms, losing its head and shedding its scales miraculously on to the stage floor. It is at the feet of the people who would easily be led by another demagogic dragon, but which in the course of time (and in the course of the fairytale story) begins to believe in the wonderful weapon it has created. Is this socialist optimism?

It seems as if the Munich production under the direction of the Czech Vaclav Kaslik wanted to skate around this to a certain extent. It moved lightly and in the grey tones of generalisation against all kinds of abhorrence of Fascism.

In so doing it probably lost that fantasy aspect that appeared so folklorish and so sensually pleasurable at the premiere of the opera in East Berlin at the end of 1969. Naivety, even socialist naivety, can be gripping.

This is something that is really lacking as far as Biermann is concerned. His *Dra-Dra* is clumsy in its hypercriticism of both extremes, the Capitalist and the Stalinist dragon. One can recognise everything about it clearly, too clearly, and feels that one is being led around by the nose, to say the least. So the confirmation before the eyes of the tyrant, which here hovers over the scene as a technical monster and is murderous with it becomes a confirmation aria with all shades and ranges of voice. Attacks on the lusting after power and suppression are expressed in hard-hitting songs and ballards.

And the dragon steams and snorts in a heap of rubbish, leftovers from the consumer society.

This is ideology in tumult, so to speak, which tries to resolve itself into a kind of agit-properetta. This gave the impression that the piece was politically speaking trying hard to gasp for breath number by number and comes out exploding with a violent snort.

The Wagnerian dragon, on the other hand sleeps, drinks the occasional beer and sleeps again in its lair which it has made in a mining-company's lorry.

In this case Fafner is meant to represent the lazy life of a bourgeois materialist — in the midst of the days of industrialisation and of expansion as a result of the profit motive.

In Munich at the performance of the tetralogy without music the ring itself sets a signal for interpretation.

It is engraved with the Krupp firm's insignia. This prevents anyone from forgetting that the production is not meant to be humorous. It is intended far more to clarify interpretations of reactionary trains of events between the bourgeois revolution of 1948 and the foundation of the monarchist Reich in 1871. The action of The Ring is projected on to this from *Rheingold* to *Götterdämmerung*.

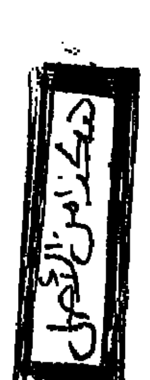
Wotan, the King, worms his way to the position of Emperor with all kinds of tactical ploys and by breaking oaths and treaties. The militant Brünnhilde and the nationalistic Siegfried give him a helping hand.

Continued on page 7



A scene from *Melusine* at Schwetz[...]

(Photo: Ludwig Bl[...])



Festivals plu[mb] the depths

No sooner had Mauricio Kag[el] [launch]ed his attack on the pom[pous] operatic world with his work *St[aatstheater]* than pomp became the [...] cultural activity. The grinding [...] of municipal and state theatre [...] keeps the operation flowing [...] its way towards the end of anothe[r] [...] and the season of festivals in on u[s]. [...]

There is the Ruhr Festival and [Schwet]zingen has premiered Aribert Rei[mann's] opera *Melusine*. Wiesbaden follo[wed] up with a festival ballet evening.

Melusine fits into the pictu[re] [...] so-called (two part) Schwetzinge[n] festival. There is a tendency on [...] hand towards Restoration and [...] operas are performed in the [...] Schlosstheater. On the other hand [...] supposed to be a contrast betw[een] work and the place in whi[ch] [...] performed for each commissio[n] [...] miered work which is intended to [...] the development of new opera[...]

Aribert Reimann's *Melusine*, [...] the play by Ivan Goll is the [...] blossoming stage fairy-tale which [...] discovered psychology. Follo[wing the] premiere of the play in 1956 it [...] that it demanded to be set to [...] should follow the example of ma[ny] predecessors in Schwetzingen a[nd] [...] into obscurity.

The dramatic clumsiness of [...] Claus H. Henneberg and a sup[...] arranged production by Gustaf [...] Sellner hardly helped a work th[...] high level of craftsmanship, bu[t] [...] shows nervousness in the historic[...] tic aesthetics.

Reimann is a master of involv[...] drama. He has long since [...] dogmatic music, whose sounds flo[...] ly or cling to expressive moods. Thi[s] [...] he has made the hard sounds [...] *Scarecrows* ballet richer and crea[...] kind of counterpoint between the [...] and the orchestra.

However, the more the story [...] away from external episodes [...] dialogue the more atmospheric and [...] it becomes and the way it ends [...] completely pathetic.

Thus in *Melusine* the Schwetzin[gen] desire for contrast has resolved itself [...] the pleasantness of an opera conce[...] goes on and on and . . .

In Wiesbaden the intention was [...] "open the window facing East" and to [...] up cultural links. For various reasons [...] was not entirely possible. Now, afte[r] [...] years of May festivals it is intended to [...] on homespun productions that have [...] gingered up by guest artists. In [...] and *Swan Lake* dancers from the [...] will show off their talents and [...] Nilsson will excel in the Wiesbad[en] production of the *Ring des Nibelu[ngen]*.

The local ballet company will perfor[m] an hors d'oeuvre for a mini-ballet-fe[stival] with Alwin Nicolais and Bejart and [...] Indonesian group.

There are variations on great [...] such as *Villon's Testament* al[...] opulent musicians forming a st[...] conventional collage performance, [...] kis and Pink Floyd, and in additi[on] this rich costumery (otherwise in the [...] evening performances of the seaso[n] production is rather scant) making [...] Wiesbaden ballet completely o[ut of] fashion, with monotonous choreog[raphic] details which had been completely [...] ed by the good spirits of classical [...] graphy.

The noble Berliner Falco Kap[...] least managed to save the Villon [...] with artistically contrived dancing [...] formances from becoming too emba[rras]sing.

Jens Wendl[and]

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEME[INES] SONNTAGSBLATT, 9 May 1[971])

■ DRAMA

Children's theatre discussed at Munich Festival

[Y]outh theatres are facing a crisis, their position is being questioned and there [is] considerable confusion about their role [an]d aims, even amongst these people [res]ponsible for the theatres.

These facts about the youth theatres in [thi]s country can be commented on for [on]ce with the one pithy sentence "About [ti]me too."

There is a need for doubts and uncer[tai]nty. Theatre for children and teenagers [has] for too long stuck to its pure educational tradition. Things have now [s]tarted to change. Steps have been taken [to] cure the malaise and experiments have been staged to this end.

Members of the Assitej (International Association of Youth Theatres) recently met in Munich to discuss the situation at the Second Youth Theatre Festival.

The Festival motto simplified the issue somewhat by placing two opposing alternatives in a direct either-or relationship — "Training for a Critical Awareness or an Uncritical Consumer Attitude."

The motto seems to express a belligerent attitude. Perhaps this is necessary to stop people taking the easy way out, shrugging their shoulders and saying: "What's all the fuss? The main thing is that children enjoy their visits to the theatre."

This was how the head of a youth theatre in Bonn defended his poor quality play *The Puppetplayer's Secret*. He was probably at a loss for better arguments.

At first it had been proposed to stage Henkel's *Eisenwichser* but these plans had to be *dropped as it was* shortly coming to one of the major theatres in the city.

A wishy-washy puppetplayer on the one hand and Henkel's hard tunnel labourer on the other show how extreme the contrast can be at a single theatre.

Theatre directors, playwrights, educationalists and a surprising number of students lectured about, discussed and saw plays and companies from throughout the Federal Republic.

They saw ten plays in all, including the two Munich productions *Oder Schießen auf etwas bis es kaputt ist* and *Tut was ihr wollt*, which revealed the many possibilities of playing to children or at least gave some indication of what could be done.

I deliberately avoid a more high-falutin' phrase such as "putting on a drama" as it smacks of providing a prefabriacted production on the ony hand and the consumption of scenes and stories on the other.

In other words, it is passive theatre appealing to the tastes of the audience, theatre that is little different from the daily dose of television.

Unlike some violently committed progressives, I do not necessarily wish to plead for plays that will give five-year-olds a critical awareness of characters and content and reveal to them the normal compulsions of society.

This jargon is untheatrical, inimical to the theatre and people can only fight against it bitterly if it is repeated over and over again.

But by being frank and direct the theatre can itself introduce the theatrical medium. The passive consumer is then changed into an understanding, inquisitive and discerning consumer.

"That's not a real organ," a babe in arms cried triumphantly as Meister Lempel's shadow walked across a projector screen.

"That's only from rubber," was heard as Max and Moritz, the unmistakable Wilhelm Busch figures clawed their way out of the baker's dough.

Klaus Schlette's Landshut version of *Max und Moritz* is a collage containing every theatrical ingredient such as folk songs, advertising spots and epigrammatic sayings.

It shows openly and in play the way that drama originates and the fact that people assume roles only to cast them off after the performance.

The non-illusionary theatre and the magic box are one and the same thing here. Staging a play is shown to be one of the most splendid pastimes imaginable.

After some inconclusive discussion the people attending the congress gradually came to the unheard of conclusion that it should not be simply and rather arrogantly assumed that the theatre is something that gives pleasure. It should also be remembered that it is an understandable need.

Awakening this need, especially in young children, should be the first legitimate function of the theatre, participants of the Munich Festival claimed.

Two non-professional contributions turned all aesthetic categories topsy-turvy. These came from the very social groups and age ranges who were not attracted into the theatre and for whom plays were not specially written — apprentices and older scholars.

The Würzburg Collective, forty young people who have rehearsed group play and physical expression under director Erich Michalka, performed *Krieg ist wunderschön* (War is wonderful), a production that was attacked in Würzburg long before its premiere.

The play, a meditative and expressive group spectacle, is based on the style of the Living Theatre and off-off stages in America.

It is an earnest attempt to break down the barriers between theatre and audience by means of concentration, noise and aggression.

The cabaret programme of the Munich apprentices is something quite different. It is direct and completely lacking art and artificiality.

With satric items such as the "Song of the Good Apprentice" the group introduces social problems that no other author has yet got around to however hard he may have tried.

Another cause for consternation was the performance of *Was nun?* (What now?), a play written by young offenders for a competition run by a Dortmund theatre.

The play is unsentimental and direct, providing documentary material to illustrate the penal system and conditions facing young offenders.

It is significant that the main action of the play is provided by a boy from a good, though broken home who runs away and turns to crime. The judges pass a relatively mild sentence, pointing out that the boy will find his way back into society thanks to his home and background.

Pit Meyer, one of the authors of the play, says, "That is a sort of wishful thinking. We would all have liked to have a home like this." The only thing that needs to be added are the two words "at least."

Experiments like this are important, however imperfect they may be, as they suggest the future possibilities of a youth theatre that is not content to remain the traditional-style theatre of education.

A Göttingen production showed that this does not mean that only problems should be dealt with. What would the fun in theatre-going if that were the case?

Tom Sawyer was the name of the play and Wolfgang Wiens' version stressed the adventure behind the story and attempted to capture the fluent, natural language.

The production was carried out with *such zest that it confirmed the fact that* plays did not need to be socially relevant to represent good theatre.

Ingrid Seidenfaden

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 10 May 1971)

Continued from page 6

It is beautiful and very plausible in its broader theatrical traits but cannot over a long period put over the alliterative parody of Wagner, the librettist, as stupid and idiotic.

Finally, the Walser production. No one is out to put that over as stupid and idiotic. It is much rather very clever for someone to recognise that his political opponenents are clever. In the play the generation of the fathers, or to be more accurate the generation of a paternal company boss, against whom brother and sister try to fight free.

At first it is a fight on a hillock against windmills, and the children are unable to do anything. Their parents constantly try to instil liberal understanding into them. And when the childhood asylum, the hillock, expands into a pop-sized large and threatening living-room it is made socially acceptable by being decorated with ornamental plants and is firmly established as part of the Establishment. Aesthetics, tolerance from which the young boy wants to free himself with bloody violence, until the girl makes him recognise that being able to see through the liberalistic, mechanism inherent in the system is in itself a revolutionary act.

In Stuttgart this all seemed too metaphorical and had little visual effect despite Alfred Kirschner's work. When the call for agitation came at the end clearly enough this seemed too contrived for many of the audience.

Dietmar N. Schmidt

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 9 May 1971)

Darmstadt academy rejects young members

The Academy for Language and Literature has copied the French example and ruled that its members must have attained a lasting reputation.

Its ranks include mainly men of literature whose quality is undisputed. There are writers such as Rich Kästner, Hans Erich Nossack, Manés Sperber, Herbert Kesten, Friedrich Torberg, Martin Walser, Siegfried Lenz and Heinrich Böll.

It also includes classical philologists such as Wolfgang Schadewaldt and Bruno Snell among its members.

But many of the Academy's members are the great men of yesteryear and are only ever given incidental mention in today's literary discussions.

That is the dilemma of all academies and it is one of their functions to create a place of refuge for older writers. But this is all that the Darmstadt academy wishes to achieve. Do the academicians want to immortalise themselves as a group of illustrious literary grandees?

An academy of language and literature whose very name proclaims the historical magnitude of its members certainly has the right to apply a strict yardstick to new applications for membership.

But the Academy's exclusivity becomes farcical when reputable young authors are refused membership. That happened twice at the recent spring congress in Munich.

Gabriele Wohmann was not accepted and Martin Gregor-Dellin did not obtain the necessary majority. The second case may not be all that remarkable but the example of Gabriele Wohmann is typical.

Few authors have been as productive as she has in recent years and few other works have been read so attentively as those of Gabriele Wohmann.

But even the award of the Bremen Literature Prize to the young Frankfurt authoress does not seem to have impressed the Darmstadt academy.

Walter Helmut Fritz was the only new member accepted — and he will have to spend some time considering whether he wishes to accept the honour.

The Prize for German Studies and the Translator's Prize are traditionally awarded at the spring congress. The Yugoslav German scholar Zoran Konstantinowic received the first award for his studies in the field of modern German literature and literary theory.

The translator's prize was awarded to Karl August Horst. The Academy made special mention of his translations of modern Spanish literature.

"Satiety of history — its place in literary scenes" was the title of a public discussion held during the spring congress. Six well-known professors were invited to attend.

Kurt Sontheimer chaired the group and skilfully called attention to the varying evaluation of historical observation by the discussion team.

The team included literary scientists Hans Robert Jauss of Konstanz and Eberhard Lämmert of Heidelberg, Bielefeld linguist Harald Weinrich, Walter Müller-Seidel of Munich and Max Wehrli of Zürich.

They supported the consultation of history as a basic demand of literary science though their aims were different. Müller-Seidel lamented the atrophy of historical awareness and forecast a new barbaric age if people neglected historical thought.

Jauss and Lämmert, half a generation younger than Müller-Seidel, appealed for a new treatment of histroy. Consultation of history was necessary but not a mere historical education.

The argument reached its climax when the young professors attacked the historical sense proclaimed by Müller-Seidel and ended with everyone agreeing that literary science was impossible if the historical dimension was not included.

The progressives concluded that historicalism was dead. The consultation of history was beginning anew.

Summing up, there still remains the question of the future position of the Academy. At present there are no research projects worthy of attention. Priority should be given to changing this situation.

Or perhaps the German language, which has not been an international language for some time now, has become so uninteresting that not even the academy responsible for its protection considers it worthy of more thorough contemplation?

By refusing young writers membership, the Academy is depriving itself of the impulses that new blood would provide. The Wohmann case is only the latest sign of many of the malaise at Darmstadt.

Manfred Leier

(DIE WELT, 10 May 1971)

■ EDUCATION

Interschul exhibition shows the school of the future

The complete school learning console contained a television screen, a film projection screen, headphones, a microphone, switchboard, writing space and chair all done up in a bright orange-coloured streamlined egg-shaped plastic mould.

This exhibit, looking like something out of a science fiction film, was the most attractive gimmick of all at the *Third International School and Learning Aid* Exhibition (Interschul for short) being held in Dortmund's Westfalenhalle.

Visitors were being shown "School at Work" in the "ideal" section of this largely educational exhibition which is always held along with a number of specialist conferences.

In the commercial section 442 firms from ten countries showed what is now being used in schools of what will be used in the near future.

One practical innovation is dust-free chalk showing that there is still a demand for blackboards even in our computer age.

Learning aids of yesteryear were also on show. There were old wall maps showing the "Waves of Settlers into the Land of the Prussians" and other items that are not actually calculated to gladden the hearts of either visitors of exhibitors from Poland and Czechoslovakia.

The main subject of the third Interschul was the comprehensive school of the future which will be used both mornings and afternoons and make great use of media and educational technology.

Proposals for solving problems raised by the all-day comprehensive school in the fields of building technology, school meals and educational administration must have been the centre of interest.

Interschul showed practical education in a large room enabling traditional class teaching as well as the tuition of small or larger groups. Light sliding doors fitted with special sound-proofing allow teachers to divide the room up as they wish – and it can be done in a jiffy!

In schools lasting well into the afternoon pupils must be given a warm meal providing them with the right type of nutrition.

The exhibition showed canteens and the equipment necessary to prepare the deep-frozen meals that will probably be supplied to schools. It is already in common use at factories.

There was also a whole series of menus consisting of deep-frozen foods. People still have some reservations about this type of catering and their prejudices must be overcome.

With schools being organised into school centres, reforms are also necessary in educational administration. Grades are already written by computer in many places.

But schools often lack what has long been part of the technological scenery even in small firms. *Hartwig Suhrbier*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 May 1971)

A learning cubicle displayed at the Dortmund exhibition equipped with TV, headphones and a projection screen.

Bavaria sets up new Educational Institute

This September a new Bavarian State Institute of Education employing 34 specialists and a further staff of 180 people with some experience of teaching will start working out syllabuses for all types of schools from the primary school to the high school.

The Bavarian Ministry of Education and Culture – headed by a Christian Socialist – has ensured the Institute that it will be completely independent and enjoy full "scientific freedom".

The new research institute [illegible] Munich will always keep a close[illegible] on educational practice than [illegible] with the Max Planck Institute [illegible] cational Research in Berlin [illegible] specialist educational departme[illegible] some universities here.

In the near future the Institute [illegible] test the advantages of a "[illegible] college" at a number of Bava[illegible] schools.

(DIE WELT, 27 April [illegible])



MEDICINE

Suitable exercise still best antidote against ageing

Kieler Nachrichten

[illegible]geing in an organism is not a wearing out process in the technical sense but [illegible]netically controlled process. Professor [illegible]drich Verzár of Basle and other [illegible]tists spoke of the molecular biological reasons for growing old in a symposium on experimental gerontology recently held in Giessen.

[illegible]r. H.P. von Hahn of the Basle Institute of Experimental Gerontology found a molecular ageing process in the chroma[illegible] of the nucleus.

Further research into this will no doubt lead one day to the discovery of preventive measures that can be taken to halt or slow down the biological process of growing old.

Every nucleus in an organism contains in its chromosomes all the hereditary information for the division and metabolic function of the cells in the form of a biological code.

This code leads to the life-long production of enzymes in the cell. While the various tissues and organs are developing, the information is restricted to certain areas containing the functional information.

When cells divide, the necessary information is released during the time it takes for the formation of the new cell.

Specific organic cells such as liver cells rarely divide. Heart muscle cells and nerve cells never divide. After maturing they attend solely and uninterruptedly to their particular function in the organism.

The inherited information in the nucleus is provided by desoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), a complicated double-strand helix of molecules linked with various specific protein bodies.

The two strands form a nucleo-protein complex producing the chromatin in the chromosome in both active and inactive state. DNA areas that are not needed are put out of operation, so to speak, by allocating them to the cells that are no longer capable of division – the cells that therefore cause the ageing process.

This blockade can be breached in the biologically active DNA areas if the relevant ribonucleic acid messenger is given the information that the metabolism is to continue.

The protein groups in the chromatin – histons – obviously hold together the rather unstable DNA double-strand while the blockade may be carried out by proteins lacking histon.

As age increases the functioning of the provision of information necessary for the cellular metabolism declines. The nucleo-proteins that were once flexible and accepted the information if need be become less mobile and finally die.

In this way the inactive DNA area gradually extends over areas that were previously biologically active. The cell thus gradually loses the basis for its metabolism and finally dies.

This process shows a decisive primary mechanism of growing old which may appear even earlier if the physiological function of a organ or group of cells is not needed.

That would concur with the old medical belief that appropriate physical and mental training is still the best medicine for old age. A person only needs to begin early enough and do the exercises regularly.

Nature has clearly given us the chance of influencing the ageing process within certain limits. Professor Günther Beneke of Ulm University, a pathologist, said that organs that had been really used contained during old age far more nuclei with a double, triple or even quadruple chromatin content than young cell systems or organs that had never had any really great demands placed upon them.

That means that the chromosome content of the nucleus has divided but not the cell itself. This multiplication of genetic material (polyploidia) is particularly common in enlarged cells, especially in a particularly large and efficient heart muscle.

Enlargements of the heart to meet the burdens placed upon it do not result from the multiplication of heart muscle cells. Instead the individual muscle fibres become longer and thicker and the heart muscle cells larger.

The original simple chromosome content of the nucleus probably causes a certain amount of cell enlargement.

Along with the metabolic need, the nucleus also meets the simultaneously increased demands for genetic information. The nucleus doubles the quantity of DNA – exactly how is not known – and so increases the quantity of information.

The heart muscle always functions and so cannot afford cell division as the cells would then not be available where they were particularly needed.

During division, which lasts several hours, the cell does not function. But this way it continues to function, as the nucleus helps to multiply the supply of information.

Professor Beneke stated that this phenomenon has been seen in tissue that has been under a particular strain in both ageing humans and animals though the link with strain hypertrophy has not yet been established experimentally.

Werner Pfeiffer

(Kieler Nachrichten, 27 April 1971)

Circulatory diseases top killer

Circulatory diseases are the most common cause of death in the Federal Republic according to statistics published in the latest edition of the *Münchner Medizinische Wochenschrift*, the Munich medical weekly.

In the third quarter of 1970 a total of 167,509 people died in the Federal Republic. 72,809 of these deaths were due to a circulatory disease, 15,199 of them to acute infarction of the heart muscle and 23,932 to circulatory complaints affecting the brain.

Second in the list of causes of death is cancer with 33,644, including 5,919 cases of cancer of the stomach, 5,708 cases of lung cancer and 2,498 of cancer of the breast.

Respiratory complaints led to 9,960 deaths, diseases of the digestive organs to 9,763 and complaints of the urino-genital system to 4,070.

1,065 people died of congenital deformations, 10,013 in accidents or from poisoning and 3,240 committed suicide.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 May 1971)

TV training for dentists

Patients never know until after treatment whether doctors or dentists they visit will use antiquated methods or whether they have kept pace with the most recent developments in their subject.

Medical associations state that doctors must attend further training courses but no check is made to ensure they do.

Because of the work involved in their practice many doctors are unable to find time to keep abreast of developments by attending congresses or studying medical journals.

Things are now to take a turn for the better. Medicolloc, a subsidiary of the Ullstein publishing company, has now developed a further education programme for doctors that can be studied at home.

Special equipment enables doctors to see colour films via a television screen. These films of new medical developments can be repeated as often as the doctor wishes. No congress or journal can offer him this. He and his patients benefit.

The first cassettes containing the information films will be sent to general practitioners during the course of the summer.

Dentists will have to wait a few months before they are able to find out about latest developments in their field from their armchairs.

The first film was shown to dentists in Berlin at the end of April. Electro-surgery and complications resulting from local anaesthetics were the main subjects.

One dentist said, "There could be no better introduction to these subjects. Everyone has the time to attend this sort of further training course."

It seems as if the cassette further training programme could prove how interested a doctor or dentist is in his subject. (WELT am SONNTAG, 2 May 1971)

Mini-shocks cure inflammation

For the past three years six doctors have been using a method developed by their Stuttgart colleague, Dr Riemüller, to kill the pain of patients suffering from phlebitis, varicose veins and piles.

The method – ion displacement in an electrical field – led to success in ninety per cent of the cases and should therefore become a serious rival to painkilling tablets.

Dr Riemüller developed the method after observing that inflammation was always accompanied by an accumulation of cations at the source of the complaint.

A low-tension current of 0.5 milliamperes causes the accumulation to disperse from the painful area and within ten minutes leads to clear and lasting relief.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 8 May 1971)

Computer aids Munich hospital administration

No fewer than eight thousand doctors and hospital technicians from all over the world turned up in Munich for the Third Diagnostics Week that concentrated this year on the relationship between medicine and technology.

Exhibits from 152 firms showed the latest medical equipment and development procedures, including a series of computer installations for hospital and medical practice.

Computers can now be used in the medical field. The conditions of use, the first experiments and future possibilities were discussed in fifty seminars that ran simultaneously.

At first special electronic brains should take over routine work, thus allowing doctors and staff to attend to more important matters. This step is made necessary by the annual twenty per cent increase of analytic data in hospital laboratories.

Simple computers are already used in several intensive care units to provide a constant control on the condition of critically ill patients.

In future they will sort through all the data emanating from laboratories and electrocardiogramme centres, calculate the results, test their reliability and then arrange all the data in the central records department of the hospital.

The Institute of Medical Data Processing in Munich – headed by Professor Heinz-Joachim Lange – is currently building up a basic information system in a Munich hospital.

Its work at the Klinikum rechts der Isar was discussed at a further seminar held during the Diagnostics Week.

This basic information system is a computer service for doctors. The hospital's admissions department contain what are called terminals.

The personal data of all admissions are scanned by the terminals and they are transferred to the files where the patients' medical data will later be stored.

The central computer which is already at work at the hospital gives the patient a serial number and also issues him with an identification number based on various non-changing personal details.

The I Number as it is called identifies the patient in the basic information centre containing all data about previous treatment, diagnoses and risk factors such as an allergy towards certain types of drugs.

If, with the help of the I number issued at the time of admission, it is found that his files are available in the basic information centre, the data appear on a screen and can be noted immediately.

This system of information should allow the doctor treating the patient to find out his past medical history more easily, more quickly and more thoroughly.

Doctors in Munich believe that this method could also help diagnosis. Teams have already been set up at some hospitals to this end.

At the beginning of the congress Professor Rudolf Zenker, the Munich heart surgeon, stated that medicine could only develop further in conjunction with technology.

But he also pointed out the present limits. Patients should not be dependent on technology alone, he said. Though medicine is becoming increasingly more technical and more rationalised, doctors must still be the controlling factor.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 7 May 1971)

Camera traces stomach cancer

A small camera to trace stomach cancer was one of the new devices introduced to doctors during the Diagnostics Week in Munich. The camera can trace cancer even in its early stages.

Professor Heinkel of Stuttgart said that the technique could be learned in a number of hours and was little bother for the patient.

The process only lasts a few minutes and a doctor can easily use the apparatus on a home visit. The doctor can later examine the film at leisure and if necessary ask specialist advice.

The gastro-camera can discover irregularities in the mucous membrane of the stomach that could be cancer. Previous methods could not always recognise these irregularities.

(Hannoversche Presse, 8 May 1971)

■ THE ECONOMY

Stabilisation takes first place in Bonn's policies

Once again the government has worked out a programme for stabilisation of inflation-hit prices, and this time under the most dramatic circumstances. The main success of previous measures is that they have prevented the present crisis from becoming even worse than it is.

It is impossible to prove the point, but presumably prices would have risen even more rapidly if Bonn had not revalued in 1969, and if the programme of more careful budgeting had not been introduced in the early days of 1970 and the supplementary tax on incomes had not been implemented.

This is the fourth occasion since the SPD/FDP coalition took over in Bonn that it has been necessary to introduce currency stabilisation measures, in order to bring industrial developments under control and check the erosion of the value of the Mark.

Whether these measures will lead to their intended goal is something that only time will tell. All that we can be certain of is that the leadership of the Social Democrat party, probably with an eye to setbacks in provincial assembly elections, and under the guiding hand of Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller has succeeded in pressing forward the claim to precedence of stabilisation.

In the summer of 1970 the watchword was still: our economic policy must be rearmed. The taxpayer found himself faced with a heavier burden so that the central government, freed of the task of braking the economy, could finally pay more attention to the domestic reforms it had promised. Alex Möller, who was then Finance Minister, put forward a hundred-milliard-Mark budget.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Criticism on a large scale that was levelled against the Finance Minister at that time seems in retrospect to have been quite justified when measured against the yardstick of the decisions taken by the Cabinet recently. Thrift motivated by economic requirements is again at the top of the list of priorities. Attempts to stabilise prices have toppled reforming zeal from its top position.

Another factor that has had to take a back seat is the guarantee of full employment. It is true that Chancellor Brandt never specifically said that this was an unquestioned right of every citizen of this country. He called it a maxim of his government.

As a result of this there came the hesitation to take steps that would cool the overheated industrial sector and the level of prices, since every such measure would have involved the risk of an economic setback which would increase in direct proportion to the lengths to which the development had progressed.

Now even Willy Brandt is having to accept that efforts to stabilise prices will probably lead to the economy going into a faster decline. There is no other interpretation that can be put on his agreement that the Mark should be floated. Free parity will almost certainly have to be followed by official revaluation although the European Economic Community is most concerned to prevent this happening.

Furthermore revaluation of the Mark means that our economy will have to strive harder to maintain competitiveness at home and abroad and not just for a short while, but permanently.

In its confrontations with the EEC partner countries the Federal Republic has certainly not gone so far as to fight for its stabilisation measures without regard for the others. It has formally set its sights on a return to the old parity.

The Council of Ministers in Brussels in which M. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing was Karl Schiller's antagonist was only prepared to allow a floating Mark for a short transitional period as a flexible weapon to defend Europe from the flood of dollars.

The ban on interest payments on non-residents' deposit accounts, which was announced in the meantime by the Bundesbank shows that there has had to be a certain compromise from the dictatorial attitude of the French and the EEC Commission.

Presumably, however, the real EEC crisis is still to come. If it should prove impossible to bring the Mark back to its old parity against the dollar and if the Dutch guilder and the Belgian franc should prove that they too are ripe for revaluation the parity among EEC currencies would have to be reviewed.

Once again this would be a tremendous trial of strength. It is something that seems to be almost impossible to avoid after the upvaluation of the Swiss franc and the Austrian schilling.

The effectiveness of Bonn's stabilisation programme hangs from the decision whether the Mark will finally and definitively have to be revalued or not.

In the main Karl Schiller wanted to give himself a means of exercising pressure on both sides of industry when he floated the Mark and open the door for an eventual revaluation.

Theoretically making it more difficult to sell exports and making imports cheaper should lead to a decline in sales and a cutback in profits for companies in this country. They would be forced to make more careful calculations. Trade unions would have to be content with more modest increases in wages and salaries.

Now that concerted action has proved a failure the Economic Affairs Minister obviously sees no other opportunity for cutting or checking the enormous increases in labour costs.

This is still the main reason for price increases. Even if they had not led to a flood of hot dollars into the Federal Republic prices would not have been able to remain stable since companies were burdened with outlandish increases in costs which they passed and pass on wherever possible in the form of increased prices.

In the turmoil of the international monetary crisis the thought that inflation is largely home-made [illegible] seem to hit home. When the [illegible] thousands of millions of hot dollars left our shores we will be left [illegible] domestic problems and will have [illegible] our attention to them.

The government must be given [illegible] for the fact that it intends to set [illegible] example by budgeting very careful[ly] [illegible] will the trades unions let this and [illegible] that the Mark has had to be floated [illegible] their calculations.

When the value of money is being [illegible] by five per cent per annum it is [illegible] expect workers to accept only [illegible] pay rises. This is a vicious circle which we shall not easily escape.

Perhaps the Bundesbank will apply [illegible] brakes again and harder this [illegible] industrial sector of the economy is [illegible] brink as was shown by the Hanover [illegible] Fair. We must now take the risk [illegible] slump into all our calculations.

Gerhard Meyer[illegible]

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 11 May [illegible])

The Mark's strength

Federal Republic −25
USA −26
Belgium −27
Austria −31
Switzerland −30
Italy −33
France −34
[illegible] −35
Britain −35
The Nether[lands] −35
Japan −45
Spain −47

Loss of purchasing power of currencies between 1960 and the end of 1970 in percentages

Bonn committed to fixing Mark parity eventually

No one is likely to claim that the agreements made in Brussels recently about currency policies are the last word in wisdom. In addition there is the fact that French expectations especially have not found any echo in Bonn.

When it comes to judging the decision to float the Mark it is of major importance — as was maintained in Paris from the outset — that there should be a duty to return to the old parity.

It is hard to understand why Bonn has not stated this unequivocally from the start. Karl Klasen, President of the Bundesbank, has expressly pointed out the duty this country has and the difficulties that are involved with it.

There is a temptation to ask in fact why the experiment of floating the Mark has been tried at all. What is the sense of this kind of intermezzo and how will it be possible to achieve a return to the old parity?

With the freeing of the Mark's parity the Bonn government has surrendered all influences to market forces. But developments on the free market, however, are now subject to the sovereign influence of the Bundesbank it it should so wish. It has room for manoeuvre with a reserve of currency exchange unmatched anywhere else in the world.

With this at its disposal it could steer the ship in any direction it wished. So, from the technical point of view it is clear that the Bundesbank has to set up the necessary conditions for fixing the partly of the Mark back at its previous level.

(Münchner Merkur, 12 May 1971)

The Mark's progress

The Mark faces its fourth parity alteration. Since currency reform in 1948 the Mark has once been devalued and twice revalued. This is a brief history of the currency in the Federal Republic:

21 June 1948: Currency reform — Reichsmark replaced by the Mark.

20 September 1949: Following devaluation of sterling the Mark is devalued from 3.33 to the dollar to 4.20 to the dollar backdated to 19 September.

4 May 1953: West German businessmen are allowed to hold currency accounts in which incoming foreign exchange is logged.

1 December 1954: International payments are made easier by extended free convertibility.

29 December 1958: The Bundesbank announces complete free convertibility for foreign currencies. This means the end of currency exchange restrictions that had applied in Germany in various forms since the world economic crisis in the early thirties.

6 March 1961: Five-per-cent revaluation of the Mark. A dollar costs just four Marks.

27 October 1969: Another floating of the Mark on 29 September is followed by further revaluation making the dollar worth only 3.66 Marks.

5 May 1971: As a result of an international currency crisis the West German currency exchange markets are closed.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 May 1971)

Three measures stabilise the economy

The Cabinet has decided to free[illegible] milliard Marks by means of [illegible] government spending, raising the reser[ve] for economic compensation and cre[dit] restrictions. Further cuts in governme[nt] expenditure of between two and [illegible] milliard Marks will be made.

In its individual points the stabilisat[ion] programme for the domestic econ[omy] consists of three measures.

*1. The Finance Minister has [illegible] given the power to make certain asp[ects] of government spending (Building [pro]grammes, investments, administrative [ex]penditure and finance assignments) [de]pendent on his approval. This will [not] affect international and legal respons[ibili]ties. Together with the Economic A[ffairs] Minister he will see to it that the Fe[deral] states go along with this restrictive [direc]tive. As a result of this, expenditure [illegible] will be cut by a milliard Marks in the [case] of the central government and by [illegible] million Marks in the case of the Fe[deral] states.

*2. Reserves for economic comp[en]sation are to be increased by [illegible] more from taxes levied. The increase [will] be by about a milliard Marks in Bo[nn and] approximately seven hundred [million] Marks in the Federal states.

*3. The Finance Minister and E[co]nomic Affairs Minister (both posts [have] been held by Professor Schiller since [illegible] May) will work out a legal formula on the basis of the economic stabilisation leg[is]lation in order to limit credit in gover[n]ment departments. This should save Bo[nn] 900 million Marks, local governments [illegible] million and the Federal states a millia[rd].

(DIE WELT, 10 May 197[1])

BUSINESS

Colour television sales continue to flag

After the Olympic Games in 1972 the second television channel, ZDF, plans to transmit its complete programme in colour, according to the director-general of ZDF, Herr Holzamer. The first channel, ARD, will almost certainly keep up with ZDF or catch up with it.

This will be the completion of a development for the television stations which began in 1967 with the broadcast of four hours of colour television each on the first and second channels.

At the moment about 80 per cent of broadcasts on both are in colour. But the greater number of television viewers has not yet taken advantage of this service although they have to pay the bill for the additional costs of colour transmissions. These are considerable. A colour production costs about one third more to make than a conventional black-and-white transmission. For nine out of ten viewers this is wasted money. They have not wanted nor been able to get themselves a colour set.

On 1 January 1971 of the total of 16.7 million licensed sets in the Federal Republic the number of colour sets was estimated to be 1.5 million.

There were about 180,000 colour sets stored in warehouses at the beginning of the year and the largest German television set manufacturer, Grundig, will produce only 100,000 colour receivers this year although its factories are geared up to producing 300,000 annually.

Why is it that the majority of televiewers has not decided to go out and buy a colour apparatus despite all the urging of the industry?

First and foremost the price. The average today is about 2,000 Marks. This is on average twice the monthly income. And although far more colour receivers are produced than sold prices are not likely to go down any further, according to the industry. In autumn 1970 it was essential to reduce prices considerably (by on average by about ten per cent). A company called Ratio in Münster had found a way of breaking re-sale price maintenance with cheap re-imports making each set 500 Marks cheaper. But even then the customers did not react with increased demand. Despite the fact that trade and industry were lamenting that such low prices were not sufficient to cover overheads televiewers were obviously waiting for further price reductions.

If industry is to be believed it will be a long wait. There is endless talk about price increases which are unavoidable if increased costs are to be covered. The price level by the end of the year must be a few per cent higher.

The latest development is the 110 degree cathode ray tube which has made it possible to produce more compact sets. They can be about ten centimetres less in depth. By the end of this year about 70 per cent of all colour sets should have this innovation.

From the beginning it was the tube for colour sets which kept their prices high. The tube can comprise about fifty per cent of the cost of a set. The precision that is necessary in producing colour tubes is not essential for black-and-white receivers.

Every one colour tube costs about as much as three monochrome tubes. In addition to this, expenditure on testing is far greater in the case of coloured sets.

Greater complications in the manufacturing of colour sets involve yet another disadvantage. Colour receivers need far more servicing than black-and-white sets which is yet another reason for potential customers to wait before purchasing.

The susceptibility of colour television was the subject of many conversations between retailers and manufacturers at the last radio and television exhibition in Düsseldorf.

Traders complained of the more frequent need for repairs in colour sets which is less of a burden to the industry than the workships that have to find the source of the failure and build in spare parts. During the guarantee period this has to be done at their own expense. With average trade margins of 31 per cent dealers are being asked too much, they complain.

Despite these shortcomings the industry does not believe that the low sales figures of recent months are a symptom of a basic slackening off of the market.

It is hoped that in 1971 about 760,000 colour sets will be sold on the domestic market so that by the end of the year more than two million households in the Federal Republic will have a colour set.

The big breakthrough is expected to come with the Olympic Games next year. If the forecasters are to be believed 2.5 million colour sets will be sold before this major event. By 1975 it is forecast that there will be eight million colour sets in use in this country, that is to say fifty per cent of households with television sets will have "gone colour".

It was prophesied many years ago that quite apart from all this optimism prices would not fall for as long as a cheaper solution to the problem of colour tubes had not been found. There is no cheaper solution in sight.

Back in 1967 a brochure issued by Grundig on this subject said: "It is quite obviously an illusion that colour television receivers will one day be as favourably priced as black-and-white sets are at the moment."

But Americans, Canadians and the Japanese pay less today for colour television than we do. Taking into consideration purchasing power a colour set in Canada and the United States costs on average about 1,000 Marks. In Japan it would cost 1,400 Marks.

On the other hand prices in this country are quite favourable when compared with other European countries. The British have to pay between 2,200 and 3,500 Marks for a colour set, the French anything up to 4,000 Marks.

Gudrun Zweigel

(DIE WELT, 12 May 1971)

Pencil industry draws a black picture

The Federal Republic pencil industry views its future sales potential with reservations. It was in fact possible in the first quarter of this year to increase turnover as compared with the same period of last year but in this branch of the economy the pressure of competition is unmistakably increasing.

At specialised fairs in this country and abroad in recent weeks favourable contracts have been concluded all round. In exports as well most firms have managed to maintain a good position.

Nevertheless as was stressed at the annual general meeting of the association of pencil manufacturers in this country, held in Nuremberg, most pencil producers are expecting "a more difficult economic situation."

According to the association turnover on the domestic pencil market in 1970 increased by 4.5 million Marks to a total of 57.5 million. Exports were increased by 3.8 million to 60.7 million Marks.

Total turnover is according to statistics issued by the association up in value by 10.9 per cent. On the domestic and export markets, however, there was a decline in actual numerical sales in 1970. On the other hand there was a large increase in the value of imports which reached 1.9 million Marks as compared with 900,000 Marks last year.

(DIE WELT, 5 May 1971)

Bread and more bread at Berlin exhibition

No other country on Earth bakes more different kinds of bread than this country, and this was clearly demonstrated by a week-long exhibition held in Berlin at the fair-ground beneath the *Funkturm* (Radio and television tower).

No fewer than 322 bakery firms from this country and abroad showed off the latest lines in the world of bread. And for the astonished visitor used to serving only one or two kinds of bread at home it was made abundantly clear that the 44,000 bakeries in the Federal Republic produce over two-hundred different kinds of loaf.

By comparison the "bread-conscious" Belgians have no more than fifty kinds to choose from, the French have forty and the British as few as twenty different bread recipes. In other words Germany is not only the land of the poets but also the land of bread.

Of course with so many different kinds of bread there is likely to be a problem of sales. According to the President of the Central Association of Federal Republic Bakers, Herr Schlüter, bakers must today more than ever be businessmen and marketing experts as well.

The competition from self-service shops and chain-stores is becoming keener all the time. And if the bakers want to hold their position on the market they must invest greater sums both in rationalisation and modernisation programmes. Consequently there was more machinery than bread to be seen at the exhibition in Berlin. These ranged from tiny dough kneaders to complete conveyor-belt bread-manufacturing machines. The latter in fact looks far more likely to produce metal boxes than bread, but appearances are deceptive!

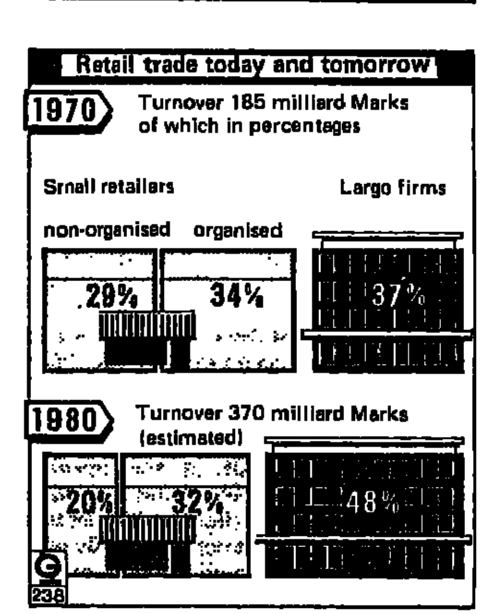
How is bread consumption expected to change and develop in the next few years?

An association for market research in the grain industries in Bonn has been thinking about this. According to the bread research team there will be a tendency for people to eat smaller meals more frequently during the day which will involve a great increase in bread consumption.

As a snack at work meals made with bread are very popular. Surveys have shown that members of families in 71 per cent of all households in this country take sandwiches with them to work.

Furthermore the researchers have established that with the decline in heavy manual labour and the increasing need for mental work the consumption of bread will switch to specific hours in the day. By 1975 the consumer will be wanting more calories at breakfast time and fewer in the evening. The number of snacks in between will increase.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 10 May 1971)



Supermarkets take over in food sales

Hannoversche Allgemeine

The number of food retail shops in the Federal Republic is continuing to decline according to the business manager of the central association of retailers in this country, Herr Pernice.

He told journalists in Bonn that in the six years up to 1969 a total of 33,000 food retail shops had gone into liquidation. The trend towards larger shops and supermarkets continues.

Turnover in the retail trade in the Federal Republic in 1970 was up by 11.4 per cent on the previous year to a total of 184.5 milliard Marks. Turnover in retail food shops alone had increased by 8.2 per cent to 57.6 milliard Marks. According to Herr Pernice the net increase in turnover ignoring price increases was 6.5 per cent.

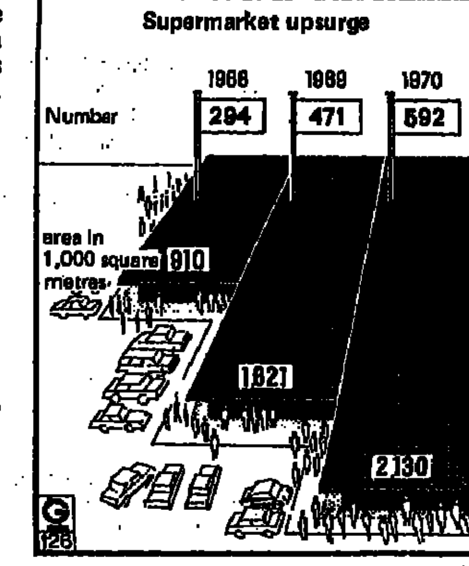
Food retailers had only been able to improve turnover in the case of high quality products. Turnover in cheaper goods had not increased.

Capital investment last year had declined and running costs, particularly for outside staff, had further increased.

The trend towards larger sales units in food retailing is brought about, according to Herr Pernice, by the increasing numbers of items on sale. In the past twenty years a total of four million items had come on the market. Expert estimates claim that this figure will double in the next ten years.

In order to accommodate such a large choice of items it was essential to have larger sales areas. In future extending self-service shops would be of great importance for economic reasons.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 May 1971)





■ TECHNOLOGY

Electronic ear cocked at outer space

The largest radiotelescope in the world was put into operation in an Eifel mountain valley not far from Effelsberg, near Bonn on 12 May. Education and Science Minister Hans Leussink was among those present at the opening ceremony. The parabolic reflector, which can be turned a full circle, is 100 metres (328.1 feet) in diameter. Its 3,000-odd tons of steel were commissioned for the Bonn Max Planck Institute of Radio-astronomy, headed by Professors Hachenberg, Mezger and Wielebinski. The electronic ear can scan 12,000 million light years and is sensitive enough to register radiation from the point where a satellite lands on the Moon. Its purpose is to size up the universe. How large is it, where are its boundaries, is it curved and is it evenly filled with matter?

Even before reaching the tiny Eifel village of Effelsberg, 25 miles from Bonn, the visitor cannot fail to notice the snow-white outline of the radiotelescope against the dark background of wooded hills.

It appears to sit squat in the valley and there is certainly no way of estimating how large it is. The landscape provides no sure means of comparison.

Not until he reaches the foot of the telescope and gazes sky-high at it does the visitor realise what a massive construction it is.

It consists of a framework of tubular steel, a criss-cross of struts and the 2,352 aluminium sheets that combine to make up the 100-metre diameter of the reflector.

The total surface is more than 9,000 square metres (two and a quarter acres) and the cab at the focal point of the reflector, just above centre, is 98 metres (322 feet) above the ground.

The telescope weighs more than 3,000 tons, the same as fully-fuelled Saturn V rocket ready for a moon shot. It can be rotated on a network of rails, the four corner pylons being mounted on chassis equipped with electromotors.

The telescope takes nine minutes to turn full circle. It is an effortless, hardly perceptible but most impressive procedure. At the same time the reflector bowl has to be tilted ninety degrees. That takes five minutes.

The slow movements of a construction of this size make the onlooker feel slightly giddy, as though the ground he is standing on moves (which, of course, it does).

One has a feeling of participating in the apparent rotation of the heavens and the scanning of the skies. When the gigantic bowl stops one visualises the arrival of fresh and mysterious signals from outer space.

Work in the control room is a little more prosaic. Computers control the device according to mathematical programmes. Curves wobble on oscillographs. Pens zig-zag up and down rolls of graph paper. The universe comes through loud and clear in the form of what, to the untrained ear, would seem to be radio interference.

Even so, there is an overwhelming consciousness of being able to listen to and locate invisible worlds beyond the visible galaxies of classical astronomy. The "interference" bears witness to the outermost outposts of time and place, cosmic formations at the edge of the world.

"No literary genius could have invented a story even a hundredth as fantastic as the sober facts the science of astronomy has brought to light," Fred Hoyle, the Cambridge astronomer and writer notes.

The acumen of brilliant theoreticians juggles with spiral nebulas and galaxies, billions and billions of strange suns, red giants, white dwarfs not to mention the latest discoveries brought to light by radioastronomy, pulsars and quasars.

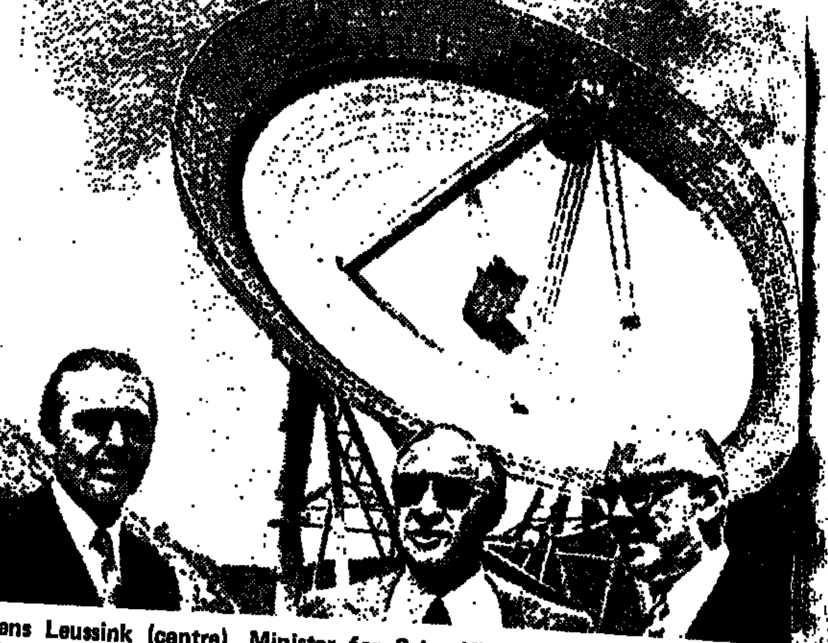
When the first pulsar signals were received it was felt that they might be messages from another civilisation. The pulsars' thunderflashes of radiation have since been identified as a lighthouse effect of a cosmic wind of unimaginably densely-packed matter. A peasized pellet of pulsar should weigh somewhere in the region of a million tons.

Quasars, on the other hand, are still a mystery. The amount of energy they release is more than the laws of nature known to us can explain. The signals received are the outermost waves of cosmic events that defy the imagination.

The new radiotelescope is certainly being taken into service at a convenient juncture from the point of view of astronomic and astrophysics research.

For Krupp and MAN, the firms commissioned to build the world's largest fully mobile radiotelescope, the Effelsberg contract represented a welcome challenge.

What they had to build was a steel structure comparable with a towering bridge, heavy and stable enough to withstand raging winds yet at the same time easily moveable, a gigantic exercise in precision engineering that must run like clockwork.



Hans Leussink (centre), Minister for Scientific Affairs, Professor Adolf But (right), president of the Max Planck Society and Professor Otto Hachenberg of the Max Planck Institute for Radioastronomy were present when the radiotelescope was put into operation. (Ph

The reflector bowl is a rotary paraboloid that can only afford to be a fraction off the ideal shape for reception of short waves. In order to ensure reception of two-centimetre waves the reflector must and does stay true to within millimetres.

Yet just imagine what happens when a mirror surface the size of a football pitch is tilted. The flexible steel structure is bound to yield to the forces of gravity. The reflector surface is warped.

The structure is so designed that one distortion offsets the other, though, and one paraboloid gives way to another, the aerial being moved to stay at the focal point. The telescope must be capable of precision movement in stormy weather. It must retain its shape at times of day when sunlight warms one side of the reflector while another section is still under frost.

This is the only way to ensure sufficiently precise collection of cosmic radio wave traces at the focal point of the reflector for scientists to be able to draw meaningful conclusions from the amplified and filtrated result.

Radioastronomists hope now to be able to probe 12,000 million light years into the universe, a distance in kilometres of 1 plus 23 zeros.

They hope with the aid of the Eifel radiotelescope to reach the edge of the universe and come up against the final riddles of the beginnings of matter.

The Volkswagen Foundation made a grant of 28.6 million Marks towards the cost of constructing the Eifel radio-telescope. The project took seven years to complete and is the largest individual enterprise ever to be financed by a foundation.

The site was donated by the North Rhine-Westphalia and apr special finance programmes the F government finances fifty per cen expenditure of the Max Planck S the independent research associati will run the telescope.

Effelsberg will also be the station for reception of data supp Helios, the US-Federal Republic probe. The Federal Ministry of Edu and Science has financed tracking ties to the tune of an addition million Marks so far. *Ernst von K*

(Handelsblatt, 12 May

7,000 private aircraft registered

At the end of last year 7,375 p aircraft were registered in th try, a surprising number consider number of airports at their dispos

They included 3,311 powered a 126 helicopters, 356 motor gliders and one airship. Accordi State Secretary Holger Börner of Ministry of Transport, these plane 550 airstrips to choose from.

In addition to the twelve major airpor there are roughly 150 smaller ones, t remainder being glider strips and spe airstrips.

Herr Börner stresses that a number smaller airports are commercially lice but have short runways and are linked to the network of major air and domestic routes.

(Handelsblatt, 23 April 1

Daily bird forecast for jet pilots

Jet pilots are uneasy not only at the prospect of hail and falling winds: the men at the joysticks of fighters and jumbos often enough have reason to fear sparrows, seagulls, crows and cranes.

Last year alone 268 Luftwaffe military aircraft collided with birds in mid-air. The damage caused amounted to millions of Marks.

Birds have only really presented a problem since the onset of the jet age. Propellers shred them, jets gulp them down.

Since 1958 more than a thousand accidents of this kind have been recorded. Five aircraft, including three Starfighters, have crashed. One pilot has died and fifteen been injured, some gravely.

In the crashes seven buildings have sustained severe structural damage and one house in Bad Meinberg was razed to the ground.

Dr Jochen Hild of Porz, near Col the Luftwaffe's bird boffin, is no mindful of the accident figures but an optimistic view of the future.

Of late the number of serious acci has declined considerably. Dr Hild this is due to the introduction of an warning procedure at the beginni last year.

The headquarters of the network Porz, where regular reports are recei from some 1,000 ornithologists all o Europe.

Last year Dr Hild and his associ were given 20,000 advance warning dangerous flights of birds. At the end this year a daily forecast for pilots is be issued on the basis of computeris information.

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 11 May 1971)

DRUGS

Heidelberg's shaky attempt to aid drug addicts

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Heidelberg in May is, as far as the tourists are concerned, everything the travel brochures promised. It is a stopping-off point for European travellers, Romantic and rather kitschy.

But Heidelberg in May can be other things. It can be the culminating point for a number of clapped-out young people who seek their salvation in LSD, hashish or heroin.

For at least two-hundred people – according to unofficial estimates – this sweet and beautiful city can be the end of the road. If these young addicts, the fixers and mainliners cannot be helped in time they are goners – beat up, clapped out.

No. 20 Brunnengasse is the headquarters of "Release", the society for the fight against drug addiction. Opposite a long wall in a broken down old back street there is an entrance, a few patches of coloured paint on the walls and the debris of building work.

These three storeys were once the offices of the *Heidelberger Tageblatt.* Three storeys testifying to the building atrocities perpetrated by earlier generations. Everything that stands, lies or moves in No. 20 Brunnengasse has an air of improvisation about it. It is bright and gay, but seems to have come about by accident. The air is hippiesque and underground – here is the unconventional subculture of the seventies.

Mattresses are spread out on the floors. Disused partition walls from a Heidelberg chain-store have found a use, old bricks are used as bedside tables. Two blocks of stone and a pane of glass form a coffeetable; and there are the tools – a large ashtray, candles, matches, clay pipes. And there is a small lump of something brown in colour and smelling spicy. It is said to be Red Lebanon.

Nearby there is a washing-machine attended by a pale-faced girl who takes in the washing.

"Join us? " asks Pascal who was present at the French student riots in 1968 as he hands me a joint filled with Red Lebanon, with hashish, or as it is succinctly called in the junkie jargon "Schiet" (Crap).

Pascal is different from Hansi. He has never been a fixer. Hansi has the hunched shoulders and fluttery eyes that are so common among people in Brunnengasse. He brings out the apocalyptic force of the statement made by Henky Hentschel: "If the fixers don't get any help, they snuff it!"

Hentschel is a filmmaker and he has filmed the "scene", the "abgefuckt" fixers, the dealers who push Schiet, speed and other stuff at the Melanie in Heidelberg to flipped out addicted bodies from Stuttgart, Reutlingen, Heilbronn, Hamburg and Paris.

He wanted to help, so he helped and is still helping and along with young doctor Dietmar Höhne he founded Release in Heidelberg. This is the only house of this kind in Baden-Württemberg. The original idea came from New York and London and has already been followed in Frankfurt and Hamburg.

Release sets out to release addicts from the deadly addiction to narcotics. It tries to bring back those who are physically dependent on the heroin or morphine jab to the world of the living.

But this is something that the psychiatric departments in the Federal state hospitals want to do and the local government claims that its facilities are adequate for conquering the problems of addicts and addiction.

In fact, however, the head of the Heidelberg University psychiatric clinic, Professor Ritter von Baeyer, has announced the capitulation of conventional institutions of this kind. And Dr Affemann, a psychiatrist, a member of the penal commission in Stuttgart sees Release as the only alternative to addiction since all previous attempts to beat it – particularly the work of psychiatrists – has failed.

According to Dr Affemann this is inevitable since there are insufficient psychoanalysts in this country. With regard to the situation in Stuttgart it is striking how much of an exception this is. Psychiatrists in the Federal state capital already have waiting lists that take between one and two years to clear.

Release in Heidelberg has been existing and improvising every day anew for about six months and its success figures would make any orthodox psychiatrist green with envy. Between fifty and seventy per cent of former fixers do not revert to their old habits after leaving Release. But almost all mainliners who are treated in hospitals go back to the needle.

These figures may arouse some scepticism and Release itself admits that not all people it has helped who revert to their old ways have been entered on their lists. But there is everything in favour of release because it is the only alternative and in the choice of two evils it is the lesser.

The fact is that an amazing number of official drug advisory centres in our cities, including Heidelberg, have been shut after a short while as quietly as possible since they have just not been used by addicts. The other side of the coin is the house at No. 20 Brunnengasse which has about forty members at the moment, including a few girls, two children and a three-week-old baby. Each day it has to turn people away because it is filled to overflowing. Initation is simple. The only people who can be taken in are fixers who want to give up voluntarily.

They are withdrawn from the drugs with apomorphine and valium injections and if there is considered to be mental need for it with hashish. It is important that former fixers from Release should find somewhere suitable to live and a confidant with whom they can spend 24 hours a day.

There is some doubt about whether people from Release can be rehabilitated even 18 months or two years after treatment there. The main group of people who are susceptible to drugs is made up of rather unstable and depressive characters who are in total isolation and cannot stand up to the pressures of highpowered society. They need to flip out and take drugs to do so.

In order to obtain the drugs upon which they become dependent fixers would do anything, including criminal acts. Thus their conflict with society becomes total and the chain of events from their original opting out to the theoretical or actual end of the road is completed.

This is the social background against which Release works and it is fighting a battle on two fronts. It expects to win the internal battle and the success figures back this up. But the external battle is on several levels since it must be carefully aimed against the society which in many cases would all too gladly let the fixers "snuff it". Typical of these was the man of the church who did not want to contribute to the bishop's appeal for contributions to Release because of possible adverse reactions of his congregation.

Heidelberg's burgomaster Reinhold Zundel reacted in a prompt and much to be commended fashion when Release was started. He put No. 20 Brunnengasse, which was due for demolition, at their disposal, made sanitary arrangements and for a while provided meals from the municiple welfare service for the patients.

As far as the law is concerned Release enjoys a de facto status as protected territory. When the police make one of their frequent swoops on hashish smokers in the Rhine and Neckar areas one address at which they make no call is No. 20 Brunnengasse.

Quite apart from the fact that this amount of insight on the part of bureaucracy is a novelty it must be emphasised that this attitude is therapeutically important for the whole Release venture.

Herr Zundel said: "We cannot judge them by the letter of the law, but must seek contact where and when it is offered. We cannot sweep the narcotics problem under the carpet without expecting to find a number of dead bodies on our hands sooner or later."

The battle with the outside world is complex. But fortunately talks are now beginning in the Interior Ministry about Release in Heidelberg. But at the same time the organisation is being talked about by broad sections of the general public. People are asking how anyone in their right mind could even think of subsidising such a crowd of leftists.

This constant conflict results in a situation where Release goes through renewed famine periods and it is not possible to predict when a phase of financial consolidation will come about.

"If nothing happens," says Henky Hentschel, "we will be on the brink by June." Monthly costs are about 7,000



Release in Heidelberg

(Photo: [illegible]

Marks, which means that each costs about 200 Marks. Monthly money for the people at No. 20 [illegible] gasse is 100 Marks. They are giving money in an attempt to prevent from stealing from chain stores [illegible] becoming drug pushers.

Because of the lack of money, [illegible] it has been impossible to give [illegible] money for May. While Release is [illegible] public subsidies it is not sure [illegible] whether it wants to be officially [illegible] cognised as a rehabilitation centre [illegible] fears that this would make it subje[ct to] rules and regulations from outside.

Because of the lack of money it [has] been possible to fully equip the [illegible] workshops, in which the former [illegible] liners learn a trade. And the [illegible] which will be off limits for dealers [illegible] in the planning stage.

Closely observed the Heidelberg [Re]lease centre is something of a p[illegible] child. In our society it will always [illegible] a semi-legal outpost and will remain [illegible] many a stumbling block. For the doubt[illegible]ing Thomases it will always rem[ain] dubious since Release is less of an [illegible] than a daily reformulated means.

At a point in time when the wave [of] drug addiction is gathering momentum [illegible] the while Release remains a drop [in the] ocean. Psycho-therapists, observers [illegible] market experts are clear in their [illegible] about how big the drug wave is becom[ing]. In the light of this an organisation [illegible] Release can only give a very few addicts [a] chance for rehabilitation.

"Real junkies and intelligent [illegible] don't come to us," remarked French [illegible] Brigitte Taquin. "We only get th[illegible] dren."

Those officials who have given [illegible] for Release have been doing their be[st to] make this struggling experiment [illegible] even though they may not agree with [the] ideologies that are spread about in [the] Release centre.

What we can see today is just the ti[p of] the iceberg. The reality is accordi[ng to] people in the Release organisation [in] Hamburg as well as in Heidelberg [illegible] estimated 20 per cent of young people have taken hashish at one time [or] another. It is certainly no incorrect [to] consider addiction as an attack on [so]ciety. And it seems to be correct wh[en] the addicts themselves say that it [is] society's duty to help them since it [is] only in this society and because of it [that] they have become fixers.

Martin Geier

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 7 May 1971)

Drug-taking survey

Twenty per cent of adults who have taken their Abitur have had some experience of taking hashish or LSD, according to a survey conducted by the Allensbach Institute for Public Opinion Polls.

It was also established that a further eight per cent were interested ub drug-taking.

Only four per cent of those asked who only had a school-leaving certificate were interested in trying drugs. Nine per cent in this category claimed that they had once taken drugs.

The 'educated' in this aspect of human affairs claim to have achieved a 'deeper' understanding.

This is a bitter pill for the sociologists, for it implies that drug-taking is a status symbol for intellectuals. Abitur is considered to be a sign of maturity. Only 28 per cent of those asked disputed this idea.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 2 May 1971)

SPORT

peedway stars meet in Scheessel

peedway specialists are probably the most spectacular motor sport en[thu]siasts left. As they tear round the [tra]ck they either stir up dust clouds or [ki]ck a tall wave of mud and cinders at [the]ir opponents.

This month fans in North Germany [on]ce have the opportunity of seeing [Eu]rope's speed kings in action. The [Co]ntinent's elite are crossing bikes, as it [we]re, first in Hamburg, then in Scheessel, between Hamburg and Bremen.

The Hamburg races are an unofficial event. At Scheessel the world championship title is at stake. The small town in the Lüneburg Heath is the venue of one of the three official preliminaries for the world championships.

Dirt track racing, as it is also called, is a game that may well have been coined by the crowds. As the machines slide their way round corners a six-foot wave of mud makes a beeline for the spectators.

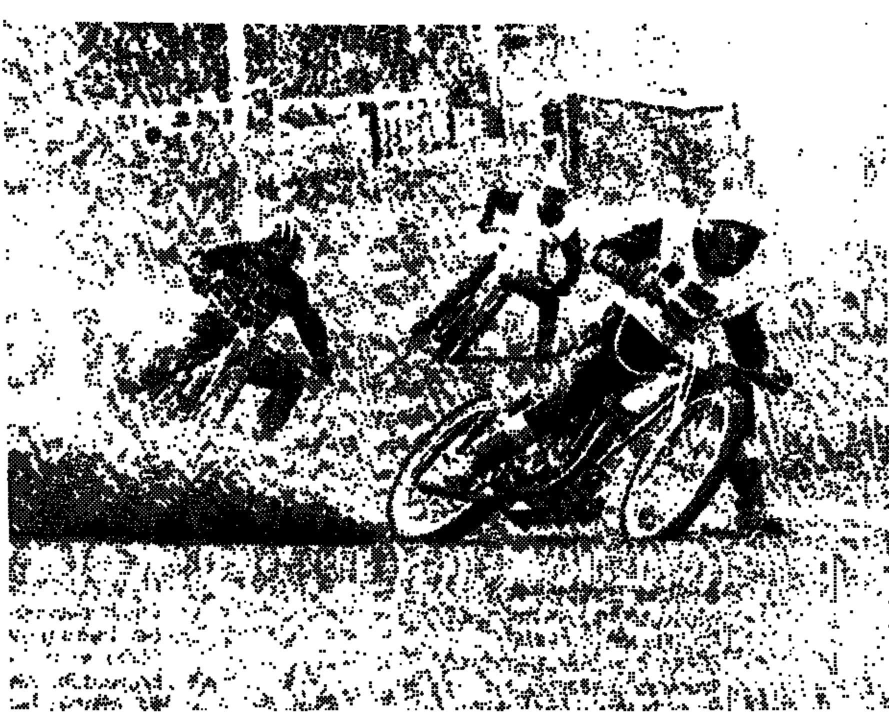
The onlooker who is caught unawares may well miss the champion as he speeds past; he will be brushing the first dose of mud and cinders off his coat.

The fans seldom miss the thrills and spills this way, though. It is soon too late to worry about having to take your coat to the cleaners and the spectacle is well worth the expense.

The speedway regular is impervious to minor mishaps of this kind anyway. At a recent Scheessel meeting held in pouring rain the was a crowd of 14,000. The town itself has a population of a mere 5,000.

The crowds come to see some of the last amateurs in motor racing. Amateurs, enthusiasts who work through the night to keep their machines in trim, still count for something in speedway. Professionals are few and far between.

A couple of hundred motor-cyclists in this country spend their spare time working on their bikes and preparing for the next speedway meeting. Most of them are happy to have their travelling-expenses refunded by the organisers.



European champion Jan Ödegaard of Norway (left) in action

(Photo: Nordbild)

Speedway bikes have low centres of gravity and high compression ratios. International regulations prescribe pure methanole (methyl alcohol) as fuel.

The 500-cc machines develop sixty horse power yet weigh less than 200 kilogrammes (440lb). On 1,000-metre tracks they reach average speeds of 120 kilometres an hour (75 mph) and more.

English JAPs and Czech Javas are the popular bikes, a speedway model costing 4,000 Marks or so all told. A really high-class machine may cost twince as much.

As he goes round concerns the racer crouches at the built-up handlebars, lets the rear wheel slide out and controls his machine with the aid of his inside leg, which is specially protected.

The Scheessel meeting is guaranteed to be a success. This will be its twentieth year and as it is a qualifying event for the world championships, consisting of three preliminaries, a semi-final and a final, the international elite are bound to take part.

Eichenring motor sport club can be sure of a full house as far as competitors are concerned. World champion Ivan Maugher of New Zealand will be there. So will the legendary Barry Briggs of Britain, whose title bag is so full that only pundits with a complete set of records can be sure just how many he has to his credit.

Eighteen men have so far entered, including five West Germans, the strongest national contingent.

Nine races with six men each will be held. After the lots have been drawn each man will take part in three races. The eight best will qualify for the semifinal and stand a chance of reaching the world championship finals, to be held this year in Oslo.

In addition to the prospective championship winners a further sixty solo and sidecar racers have been allowed to enter. A total of 250 entries were submitted.

Scheessel has a fine track for both stars and outsiders. What used to be a dirt track is now a stadium. The track is 1,000 metres in length and twelve metres wide along the straights.

The bends are cambered and fifteen metres wide and there are crash barriers round the entire track. There are embankments all round to protect spectators and a substantial stand holding 5,000 fans.

In Hamburg, which does not yet have a speedway track of its own, the meeting is to be held at Farmsen trotting track. Hamburg motor sport club stand to benefit from holding its meeting only ten days before Scheessel. Many a star is expected to take part in both.

World champion Maugher will be at Farmsen. So will European champion Jon Ödegaard of Norway, Don Godden of England, a favourite with the Scheessel crowd, and this country's veteran speedway king Manfred Poschenrieder.

According to the organisers the stars are making do with expense at Farmsen, which will cut the cost to less than 50,000 Marks. At Scheessel they are paid an entry fee, which will bring expenses there up to 100,000 Marks.

An internacional star and crowd-drawer costs somewhere in the region of 2,000 Marks as far as the organisers are concerned. Yet speedway remains a sport for amateurs rather than professionals.

It is a hobby calling for "a not inconsiderable amount of courage, pluck and strength," to use the words of the chairman of the Hamburg club.

Speedway racers used to be motor mechanics and amateurs riding home-made models. They now include office workers among their number. European champion Ödegaard, for instance, is a dentist.

Christian Habbe

(DIE WELT, 14 May 1971)

New football stadium for Cologne

At the last minute a decision has been taken to rebuild Cologne sports stadium in time for the 1974 soccer World Cup, to be held in this country.

On the last day for submission of projects for Interior Ministry subsidies Cologne city council approved plans for a project that will cost an estimated 64.27 million Marks. The new stadium will accommodate more than 60,000 spectators with covered accommodation for 20,000.

For reasons of expense plans for a marquee-roofed football stadium for 70,000 spectators have been shelved. It would have cost 95 million Marks.

(DIE WELT, 17 May 1971)

VIPs at Munich Olympic games

Between 300 and 400 kings, queens, prime ministers, wives, cabinet ministers and other VIPs are expected to visit the 1972 Munich Olympics.

Preparations for their visit must be begun immediately according to the new chief of protocol of the organising committee, Dr. Willi Ritter.

As a rule VIPs do not state exactly when they intend to arrive until very late in the day but already nearly all of the potential high-up visitors are expected to be in Munich for the opening ceremony.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 14 May 1971)

Munich Olympics set to accommodate 176,000 visitors

The Olympic beds for 1972 have now been made," the Munich organisation committee has announced. The target quota of accommodation for visitors to next year's Olympic Games has been reached.

In and around Munich a total of 138,000 beds have been reserved for Olympic visitors. Munich itself has 24,000 hotel beds and 20,000 beds in private homes at the ready.

Munich tourist board chose "The Hospitable Olympics" as its slogan and set about booking hotel and boarding house beds between Ulm and Berchtesgaden. The campaign, the organisation committee says, has been a success. The bookings have been made.

Three in four of the 138,000 beds are in hotels and boarding houses. The remainder are spare beds in private homes. Forty thousand-odd beds have been reserved for Olympic visitors in Munich itself and a further 35,000 in towns and villages linked to the city by suburban electric railway services.

The others too are within reasonable distance of the Olympic city. "It will take an average hour and a half to get from your accommodation to the Olympic stadium," the organising committee assures all and sundry.

The provision of accommodation outside town is not an arbitrary measure, the committee notes. "Many visitors plan to combine the Games with a holiday in the delightful surroundings of the Olympic city."

Some 25,000 beds have been reserved with visitors from other parts of this country in mind. Over four booking periods there will be accommodation for 100,000 people so no one need worry. Advance booking is not absolutely essential, though agencies selling tickets will also be pleased to provide hotel bookings at the same time.

Visitors from abroad, apart from Austrians and Swiss, are required to book hotel accommodation at the same time as tickets, though.

The organisers note with pleasure that outrageous prices are not being demanded. "The organising committee and the tourist board have agreed with hoteliers on prices that are in line with those normally charged."

In addition to the 138,000 hotel and private beds accommodation has been secured for 38,000 young people. Thirty thousand youngsters can be put up in Munich schools, which are to be converted for the purpose.

Two thousand youngsters will have camp facilities at their disposal and a further 6,000 are to be accommodated by local authorities in the Munich area. Gröbenzell school, for instance, is to accommodate 100 young people from Czechoslovakia This dormitory accommodation is to cost between five and eight marks a head, including breakfast and with the possibility of booking hot mid-day and evening meals as well.

"Sufficient numbers" of tickets are to be made available to young visitors, the organising committee maintains.

Ludwig Fischer

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 May 1971)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT £ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	RI 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0,50
Tanzania	EAs 0,25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d